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THE TIMES

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 5 1987

25p

Satellite papers kept in sealed boxes

Zircon was biggest secret for decades

By Michael Evans
Whitehall Correspondent

Project Zircon, the spy satellite programme, was so highly classified, with a special Whitehall secrecy codeword all to itself, that the Government and the Special Branch have the names of all those "in the know" since it began in 1983.

Only a small number of people were aware of the details and if any passed the secret on to the journalist Mr Duncan Campbell, it would involve one of the gravest breaches of the Official Secrets Act for many years.

The project was protected under the normal top secret classification and a much more restricted individual coding on all the documents, which meant that only those cleared to see memos and reports about the Zircon satellite were allowed to be on the Whitehall circulation list.

Those on the "need to know" list were a small section of very senior staff at GCHQ, the Government's intelligence-gathering centre in Cheltenham, top grade Civil Servants and service chiefs at the Ministry of Defence involved in the satellite's specifications, about a dozen officials at the Foreign Office and a handful of people at the Cabinet Office.

Although all these officials had been positively vetted in

the normal way, they had also been subject to a second, more rigorous vetting procedure. Zircon was viewed from the very beginning as one of the most highly classified programmes for decades.

Whenever documents passed from GCHQ to the three Government departments, they were delivered in locked boxes. Officials entrusted with the key to these "special material" deliveries

home in north London, in the hope that they might point a finger at the mole who revealed the name Zircon to Mr Campbell.

Rumours of a development programme involving a possible British spy satellite had been circulating within the space industry for two years but it was Mr Campbell's specific reference to Zircon which caused such turmoil within the Government.

interview and it took him completely by surprise, because he was on the "need to know" list. He immediately informed the ministry that Mr Campbell was aware of the Zircon project.

In Sir Frank Cooper's case, the name Zircon was never mentioned, and there were only generalized comments about a British spy satellite, following leading questions by Mr Campbell.

As for the alleged "mistake" made by British Aerospace in sending out a press release about a new satellite to be launched in 1988, giving the longitude as 53 degrees east, over the Indian Ocean, it was confirmed yesterday that this detailed statement had been approved by the Ministry of Defence.

The position of the satellite was not a secret because any country that plans to launch a satellite has to book space years in advance and it is officially logged with the International Telecommunications Union in Geneva and is open to the public.

Hundreds of people are expected to turn out tonight in Edinburgh and Glasgow to watch a private video tape of the Zircon programme, although they will be warned that they may be in breach of the Official Secrets Act.

The viewings, organized by the Scottish Council of Civil Liberties, will be at the central library in Edinburgh and at Strathclyde House, Glasgow. Mr Campbell has been invited and hopes to be there, depending on the advice of his solicitors, because he is still bound by the injunction.

They were Sir Frank Cooper, the former Permanent Secretary, and Professor Sir Ronald Mason, the former Chief Scientific Adviser.

However both played a totally innocent role. Sir Ronald was asked about project Zircon at the end of the

Mr Brian Barr, producer of the BBC series, *The Secret Society*, which included the Zircon programme, has been questioned twice by Special Branch detectives, but has refused to tell them anything. Mr Barr, who saw the police with his solicitor, said the meetings were amicable.

opened them and then handed the sealed envelope inside to the person to whom it was addressed. The contents were inside a second envelope.

Once the official had read the document, everything had to be resealed, returned to the box, which was relocked and returned to a central registry for safekeeping.

Each copy had an individual number at the top and there was no question of such sensitive material lying around for others to see. Unlike the secret memorandum about the arrival of cruise missiles at Greenham Common in 1983 written by Mr Michael Heseltine, then Secretary of State for Defence, which was leaked to *The Guardian* by a Foreign Office employee, Miss Sarah Tisdall.

The Special Branch investigation has concentrated on the documents seized under warrant from the *New Statesman*, the BBC in Scotland and from Mr Campbell's



Dennis Comer, skipper of Stars and Stripes which won the America's Cup, celebrating in Fremantle. Report, page 36.

Shia Muslims hold Waite prisoner in Beirut safe-house

By Nicholas Beeston in London and Juan Carlos Garmucio in Beirut

Iranian-backed Shia Muslim kidnappers are holding Mr Terry Waite prisoner in a safe-house in west Beirut with other Western hostages after his mediation mission became embroiled in regional conflicts, informed Lebanese sources have told *The Times*.

Following a flurry of conflicting reports from Lebanon, the sources have indicated that Mr Waite left Britain after setting up a hostage-for-prisoner deal, involving the release of Arabs imprisoned in Kuwait for Westerners held in Lebanon by pro-Iranian kidnappers.

The Archbishop of Canterbury's envoy disappeared on January 20 to negotiate the release of Westerners, including an American journalist, Mr Terry Anderson, and a university dean, Mr Thomas Sutherland.

Mr Waite was holding secret negotiations with the pro-Tehran Islamic Jihad group and hoped to secure the release of more than one hostage in return for Kuwait granting an amnesty for one or more of the 17 Arabs imprisoned for attacks there in 1983.

Kuwait has consistently stated that it will not release any of its convicted prisoners and has previously refused to speak to Mr Waite. It is not clear what the Gulf state would have received in return for allowing some of the prisoners to go free.

Meanwhile, Mr John Gray, Britain's Ambassador to Lebanon, yesterday made a perilous journey into west Beirut to meet contacts in the search for Mr Waite.

It was his second such visit under heavy guard: the ambassador has found it impossible to make progress

while staying in the relative safety of east Beirut.

According to the sources, Mr Waite's mission initially went smoothly, but the envoy later became the victim of the rapidly changing events in the Middle East and was abducted by Hezbollah, another group of Iranian-backed gunmen. Reports that he has been tried in a "kangaroo court" were dismissed as "ludicrous" by Lebanese sources.

It is not clear to what extent Tehran itself is implicated in Mr Waite's abduction. However, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, has written to the Iranian Speaker of Parliament, Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, to ask for his assistance in retrieving his missing envoy.

Dr Runcie also yesterday met the Lebanese Ambassador to London, General Ahmed al-Haj, when the Lebanese envoy said his Government was doing all it could to help retrieve Mr Waite.

The sources said Mr Waite was seized after the arrest in West Germany of two brothers, Muhammad Ali Hamadi and Abbas Hamadi, whose relations are senior members of the Hezbollah militia. The family was responsible for the abductions of two West Germans in Beirut last month, and have demanded Bonn through secret negotiations to swap prisoners.

Although Mr Waite's life is not thought to be in any immediate danger, it is unlikely his kidnappers will allow him to go free while the 35-ship US naval task force continues to patrol in the eastern Mediterranean, within striking distance of Lebanon. His abductors have not

Continued on page 6, col 6

SDI deployment provokes US rift

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan has been meeting senior Cabinet officials as a fierce battle flares again within his Government over whether to begin early deployment of his Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

The possibility of a summer superpower summit is being floated by some Administration officials, but an early SDI deployment decision would be virtually certain to ruin any prospects for a third Reagan-Gorbachev meeting.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, has said that so much progress has been made on SDI research that a first phase of the programme could be launched by 1993. His remarks have been interpreted as an attempt to force the President's hand. This has seriously alarmed US allies and is strongly opposed by Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State.

On Tuesday Mr Reagan met both of them, together with other senior military and security advisers, to discuss SDI and the whole Administration approach to arms control for the remaining two years of his term. The White House yesterday insisted that no decision had been taken on SDI deployment.

Asked about reports that preparations were now under way for a summit in Washington this summer, the White House spokesman said he had no specific information.

But Mr Richard Perle, the influential Assistant Secretary for Defence, said in London on Tuesday that there was a "good chance" of a meeting.

Leading article 13

And suggested that Mrs Thatcher's visit to Moscow next month could play an important part.

The debate has once again opened a deep rift in the Administration on arms control. Even the Joint Chiefs of Staff differ with Mr Weinberger on the need for early deployment. Mr George Shultz said after the contentious White House meeting on Tuesday that a decision would probably not be made this year.

Observers here say it will not be possible much longer to prevent an open clash

new work practices if the dispute is to be settled, they are under strong pressure from the rank and file to demand only a "no strings" 10 per cent pay award.

British Telecom has offered a package worth about 7 per cent.

As the "exploratory talks" continued yesterday thousands of union members marched through London.

One of the marchers said: "Our trouble is that we are a moderate union in the hands of a militant management."

A British Telecom spokesman refused to discuss reports of union members who have not obeyed the strike call being intimidated.

At some telephone and telex exchanges, pickets had displayed lists of "scabs" who crossed their picket lines.

It is clear that many thousands of the union's 10,000 strong membership are continuing to work normally.

Photograph, page 2

Good game, Gary. Nice haircut, Nigel.

Hailsham to see rape case papers

By Frances Gibb and Stewart Tandler

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, is expected to call for the transcript of the judge's remarks in the Ealing vicarage case amid mounting criticism that the sentences imposed were too lenient.

Yesterday, in the first Governmental comment on the case, Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Home Office, rejected backbench calls for a minimum 20-year sentence for rapists but promised that once the Criminal Justice Bill became law there would be measures to prevent lenient sentencing.

The Bill would allow, said Mr Mellor, for sentences to be referred to the Court of Appeal. The court would say whether the principles followed by the trial judge were appropriate

and issue further guidelines for the future.

Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke South, said there was now "overwhelming evidence that some judges do not appreciate the gravity of rape and they are out of touch with public sentiment."

Sir Michael Havers QC, the Attorney General, has indicated that the proposed new power for him to refer to lenient sentences to the Court of Appeal will be "exercised sparingly."

The new power, contained in the Criminal Justice Bill now going through the Commons, has been drawn up specifically to deal with cases such as the Vicarage rape case.

Spectrum, page 10
Leading article, page 13

ADVERTISING

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INSIDE

Two stars of the BBC are dead

Two broadcasting personalities, Wynford Vaughan-Thomas and Fyfe Robertson, died yesterday.

Mr Vaughan-Thomas, aged 78, joined the BBC as a radio journalist in 1937. He will be best remembered for his vivid reporting during the Second World War.

Mr Robertson, aged 84, joined the BBC in 1957 after wide experience in newspaper journalism. His first job was on the *Tonight* programme. Vaughan-Thomas obituary, page 14

Sit-in goes on

Talks between union officials and management of the occupied Caterpillar works near Glasgow broke down after the company refused to withdraw its closure plan. Page 2

TIMES BUSINESS

Dollar rises

The dollar rose on hopes that the US economy is strengthening. Shares in London reached new highs, the FT 30 share index gaining 14.3 points to 1,472.8. Page 19

SE anger

Prominent Stock Exchange figures are angry over controversial proposals for trading in shares listed on more than one market. Page 19

TIMES SPORT

Robson back

Bryan Robson, the Manchester United and England captain, will return to action on Saturday in his club's match with Charlton Athletic after a six-week absence through injury. Page 38

TIMES JOBS

An investment

Career decisions should be treated as if they were financial investments, says Richard Shervington, of Price Waterhouse, in an introduction to today's eight-page General Appointments. Pages 25 to 32

Portfolio

● The £4,000 prize in The Times Portfolio Gold competition was shared yesterday by two readers. Details, page 3.

● Portfolio list, page 22.

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Private firms to do council work

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The Government plans to push through legislation by the summer forcing local authorities to permit private firms to compete for a wide range of council services. It is hoped to save councils some £250 million a year on six services costing some £2.5 billion.

Councils who weight the odds against private bidders, or who fail to include full costs in bids by their own in-house organizations, could have their direct labour departments closed down.

Mr Christopher Chope, Under Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, confirmed yesterday at a London seminar that councils will be forced to allow competitive tendering for catering (including school meals), refuse collection, street cleaning, the cleaning of buildings and ground and vehicle maintenance (except for police vehicles).

The Government hopes also to bring competition into the running of council sports centres and swimming baths. A consultation paper on the management of sports and leisure facilities will be issued shortly, and the Bill will provide for the Secretary of State to add further activities for competitive tendering.

The Bill will not require councils always to accept the lowest tender. Mr Chope said

Four more Oxford men leave

By Jim Railton

Three top American oarsmen, Dan Lyons, Chris Huntington, and Chris Penny, together with Jonathan Kish, the coxswain, have been dropped by the Oxford University Boat Club's president, Donald Macdonald, from the Boat Race squad.

Thus, the Oxford crew, designed to be the best of all time with Olympic, World and Pan-American medals, will never leave the drawing-board. The Americans in effect dropped themselves by not turning up to Leander yesterday for a training session.

It may well be that the Americans will be on the Thames's Championship course on Boat Race day, but rowing in the opposite direction, from Mortlake to Putney in the Head of the River Race. They have already received an invitation from a tidyway club.

Meanwhile, Macdonald has received notice from some college captains that they wish to have yet another "Captains' meeting, with a motion of no confidence in the president once again on the agenda. This disturbing affair still threatens to rumble on.

The penalties will be the same as those for financial failure, which include, in the last resort, the partial or complete close down of a direct labour organization.

Loans to be checked

Standard Chartered Bank last night asked the Bank of England to carry out an investigation of allegations regarding loans to supporters of its defence against the Lloyds Bank takeover bid.

The Bank of England has agreed to appoint inspectors under section 17 of the Banking Act. It is expected that at least two inspectors will be named.

It was all on the black for Hurricane Kasparov

By Alan Hamilton

The stage of the London Hippodrome is all glitz and glitter as though awaiting the entrance of Shirley Bassey - except for a chess table and two chairs centre stage.

The warm-up man, all head-phones and trailing wire, asks the audience for a test round of applause. "Just once more please. Fine. Cue cameras," and an explosion of lights and music: it's *Starlight Express*!

No, it's Channel 4. Speed Chess: a bold and unlikely attempt to follow where snooker, darts and American football have already trod with such success, into the

living rooms of a nation slumped before the box.

Enter, stage right, a dinner-jacketed compere. "Will you please welcome the highest-rated British player of all time, Nigel Short." To a burst of rehearsed applause, Nigel in white tuxedo bounds down the stairs as though about to meet Wogan. The scenario fades to Miss World as the compere questions him on his hobbies. Nigel, obligingly, reveals that he once played in a rock band called The Urge.

"And now please welcome the world champion, Gary Kasparov." Gary, playing black today, is naturally wearing the black tux, and the

compere demands to know what a handsome fellow like him does in his spare time. Nudge-nudge. Gary, shy but trying bravely to enter the spirit, says he doesn't have much spare time.

And now, shades of Bruce Forsyth at the Palladium. "And starting the clock for us tonight, our arbiter, Lothar Schmid." The majestically grey-haired Herr Schmid takes his brief bow. The object of the game is speed: each player has only 25 minutes worth of moves.

Down go the house lights, and they're off to an opening flurry of fallen pawns. Up in the commentary box,

Whispering Raymond Keene analyses the moves, while the audience watches in reverent silence: there is not a pint of lager in the place.

Gary gets up, folds his arms, and frowns at the board. Nigel blows his nose. Gary walks offstage. Nigel does his impersonation of Rodin's *Thinker*, chin on fist. The cameras follow their every twitch, not that there are many. Will one of them crack, to become the new Higgins, or the Botham of the board? No, impassively reigns.

Gary takes the match with eight pieces left on the board and nine minutes to spare. Enter the compere again,

bestowing warm handshakes. "That was an astonishingly aggressive game, Nigel." Nigel smiles bravely and says he could have won, given two hours.

"We think that with the quick game and the electronic board displaying the moves, we may have just the right combination. But of course we try to concentrate on their personalities too," says the producer, Michael Feldman. Channel 4 viewers can judge each week from February 21, with the drearier *longeurs* edited out.

Good game, Gary. Nice haircut, Nigel.

Photograph, page 3



NEWS SUMMARY

Baby's body found in hospital laundry

The body of a baby girl less than two days old was found in a hospital laundry room at Norwich, Norfolk, yesterday by a hospital worker who was about to load a washing machine.

A post-mortem examination has revealed the baby was alive when it was born, so we are treating this as a potential murder inquiry until we know otherwise," a Norfolk police spokesman said. Police are searching for the mother who, they say, may be in need of urgent medical attention.

The laundry department of West Norwich Hospital, where the body was found, handles the laundry for 22 other hospitals in the region, but a health authority spokesman said no babies were missing from any of them and it was impossible to tell where laundry came from because the bags were not marked.

Irish 'cliff-hanger'

A survey published yesterday shows that the Irish general election may turn into a cliff-hanger. The survey, in the *Irish Independent*, revealed a drop in support for Mr Charles Haughey, Opposition leader, and suggests he must campaign strongly to guarantee an overall majority. Fianna Fail's poll rating dropped 4 points to 48 per cent.

Support for the new Progressive Democrats has risen from 15 to 17 per cent while only 22 per cent intend to support the Fine Gael party of Dr Garret FitzGerald, Irish Premier.

Deal on old 'subs' Listeners go local

A "new submarines for old" shipbuilding scheme that will save 1,000 jobs at the Immingham Ship Repairers Yard, started yesterday when two former Royal Navy craft arrived at the yard.

The company has done a deal with the Ministry of Defence under which it buys obsolete submarines, rebuilds and refits them, then sells them to foreign powers.

The scheme was introduced after the Government decided that all future refits would go to naval dockyards.

The BBC said yesterday that its network of local radio stations had gained listeners last year but that Radio Four had lost some.

Its 32 local stations shared a 14 per cent share of the radio audience, up one per cent from 1985. Radio Four's audience fell from 12 per cent to 11 per cent.

Radio One continued to be the most popular station with a 30 per cent share. Independent local radios had a 25 per cent share. Radio Two at 18 per cent and Radio Three at 2 per cent were unchanged.

Murder charge

An American was yesterday sent for trial at the Central Criminal Court charged with murdering an off-duty policeman in London nearly 12 years ago.

William Quinn, aged 38, from San Francisco, was accused at Lambeth Magistrates' Court of murdering Stephen Tibble, aged 21, who died in hospital shortly after being shot twice in the chest on February 26, 1975.

PC Tibble (right) a married man, was stationed at Fulham police station, south-west London.



Police drank on duty

Three policemen have been found guilty at a police inquiry of drinking on duty at Portlaoise prison, in the Irish Republic. The incident happened on December 23, 1985, a month after 11 convicted IRA men tried to escape from the prison.

An internal police inquiry, held in private, found three police officers guilty. A fourth was cleared and a hearing is pending against a police sergeant.

The three policemen could face dismissal, and have 21 days to appeal.

Mudslinging starts in Greenwich campaign

The opening salvoes in what threatens to be a highly personalized by-election campaign were fired at Greenwich yesterday — with the target for most of the political mudslinging remaining out of view and keeping her powder dry until this morning.

Mr John Antcliffe, the decidedly young merchant banker representing the Conservatives, devoted his entire opening press conference to denouncing Miss Deirdre Wood, the Labour candidate, whose hard left credentials he insisted had disgusted local voters and forced Labour headquarters to rush forward the date of the poll.

"They have cut and run. I have no doubt by the time the people of Greenwich vote on February 26 we will see the Labour Party have had good cause to panic," said Mr Antcliffe, aged 25.

Miss Wood, who held her opening press conference this morning, together with Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy Labour leader.

● The Labour leadership declared yesterday there would be no blank cheque for town hall spending under a Labour government. Launching the party's campaign for the local elections on May 7, Dr John Cunningham, shadow Secretary of State for the Environment, said: "Cash will be strictly limited".

Fears that airport strike could spread

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

Fears were growing last night that the strike by 52 Manchester firemen could spread to other airports.

The Transport and General Workers' Union has called a conference of national delegates representing other firemen in an attempt to gain support for their action.

Airports are licensed to handle passenger aircraft only if there is adequate emergency cover.

Immediately the Manchester firemen walked out last Wednesday, the airport's licence was withdrawn.

If that happened at other airports it would cripple the entire aviation network. Then the Government would almost certainly take action to keep the runways open — probably involving the use of military firemen.

The strike began over plans by Manchester International Airport to introduce new equipment and change the way duty rosters were manned.

The firemen claimed that this would affect safety — an allegation denied by the airport.

A spokesman said: "We are appalled by such a suggestion. This is a dispute about money. The firemen were paid an

extra £20 per week in 1984 to use new equipment. But now, as it is being installed, they are demanding more."

Manchester is one of the most successful independent airports in the country. Passenger throughput increased by 24 per cent in 1986, to 7,644,732, compared with the previous year.

Profits for the first six months to October were a healthy £21.6 million and a huge programme of investment is planned this summer to improve facilities further.

As a result of the strike 180 flights and 11,500 passengers a day have been switched to other airports, reducing

Manchester's takings by well over half a million pounds.

However, last night there was no sign of the management going back on its headline stand against the striking firemen.

Meanwhile, the British Aviation Authority, which runs Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted, said it was "watching the situation closely".

● An attempt to defuse a dispute between two airlines, both of which want to fly from the proposed airport in the docklands of London, was made yesterday.

Brymon Airways, based in Plymouth, formally withdrew its objections to proposals by

Eurocity Express, the British Midland subsidiary, for licences to begin services to five centres.

Brymon restricted its own application to four.

However, there has been little progress on the question of charges for using the airport.

The airlines claim that unless Mowlem, the construction company, agrees to set charges at a low level it will be impossible to operate the routes profitably.

However, Mr Jonathan Wilson, Eurocity's general manager, remains confident of being able to start services when the airport is completed.

Tories set up team to promote defence

By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

The Conservative Party has drawn up an unprecedented team of defence experts to attack opposition policies and promote its own in the run-up to the general election.

Central Office, the party's headquarters, has combed through the backbenches to find more than 30 former ministers, committee chairmen and others with long experience in defence and foreign affairs under the banner of the Conservative Campaign for Defence and Multilateral Disarmament.

A dozen will form a "campaign council". They include former ministers, Mr Cranley Onslow, chairman of the backbench 1922 committee, Sir Peter Blaker, chairman of the Conservative foreign affairs committee, Sir Antony Buck, chairman of its defence committee, Mr Ray Whitney, Mr Barney Hayhoe and Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith.

Ministers have been extensively consulted and, although established in 1981, this is the first time that the CDMD — or any other group — has pulled together people from all strands of the party to form what is intended to be a single cohesive force.

Mr Gerry Neale, MP for Cornwall North and the campaign's chairman, said that its task will be to support and promote the Government's case for strong defence and "balanced disarmament" at every opportunity, and to expose the "failings" of Labour and Alliance defence policies.

He said it will ensure that the opposition's arguments "never win by default because there's no one from our side to make our case".

Its members will carry the message to the constituencies, and one of its most immediate tasks will be to send briefing packs to all Conservative MPs and parliamentary candidates.

Mr Neale said: "We are bitterly opposed to the Labour policy of unilateral disarmament and the removal of American bases, and the Alliance policy is almost as dangerous. They have accepted Polaris needs to be replaced but can't decide what the replacement is to be."

A new public information film explaining the Government's defence policy, including the need for the Trident nuclear deterrent, will fuel the debate on defence.

The 27-minute film, *Keeping the Peace*, launched yesterday, has been made by the Ministry of Defence at a cost of £181,000. It is intended for sixth formers and above and will be free to schools and educational establishments and on loan to other groups.

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, denied that the film was party political propaganda paid for on public funds. "Any Government is entitled to put forward their policy."

Keeping the Peace features interviews with Army, Navy and Air Force officers as well as with Lord Carrington, Secretary General of NATO.

Squadron Leader Chris Pitt, navigator of a Tornado based at RAF Bruggen, is asked how prepared he was to drop a nuclear bomb.

"As prepared to drop a nuclear bomb as to drop any other sort of bomb: it is another weapon in the arsenal. It's a horrific thought and certainly if we had to go and drop nuclear weapons we have failed in our job. At that stage we will have failed and we will be losing badly."

Trident video fuels nuclear dispute

By Peter Davenport
Defence Correspondent

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Mr Pooley, a former civil servant in the Ministry of Agriculture, said: "We cannot, in my view, limit expenditure and limit production without making agriculture less profitable for a minority of large farmers."

Sit-in goes on as talks over closure break down

By Robin Young

A meeting between full-time union officials and the management of the occupied Caterpillar tractor plant at Uddingston, near Glasgow, broke down yesterday after company representatives said that they were unable to withdraw the threat of closure.

Mr Kenneth Robinson, the American plant manager, said: "This meeting was an attempt to initiate the sort of discussion we hoped to have with our workforce when the announcement of the intention to close was made. Unfortunately, the immediate occupation of the factory shut out all effective means of communication."

Mr Robinson said that the president of Caterpillar, in answer to pressure from Mr Malcolm Rifkind, the Secretary of State for Scotland, had undertaken that there would be no compulsory redundancies before the beginning of July, and that some jobs would remain at the factory until mid-1988.

Mr Robinson said that the company also intended to leave a small management team in the area to help redundant workers retrain, search for jobs, and arrange their finances. The team would also include a procurement officer who would try to ensure employment for 800 workers who had been Caterpillar's suppliers; they would continue to have the best possible chance of supplying



British Telecom engineers picketing outside Fleet House in Farringdon Road, central London, yesterday with a Scab List of working union members (Photograph: James Gray).

15 print workers accused

A number of dismissed printers and technicians appeared before Thames magistrates yesterday jointly accused of threatening behaviour outside the News International plant in Wapping, east London.

The magistrate, Mr Brian Banham, refused a defence application for the 15 defendants to be tried separately.

Mr Banham said: "There should be a joint trial."

Also appearing was Richard Brown, an unemployed engineer, of Waltham Cross, who was bailed until April 13 charged with causing criminal damage with intent to endanger life.

He allegedly threw a brick at a TNT van leaving the plant.

The following were jointly accused of threatening behaviour outside the plant on December 29 and were bailed until February 18 for a hearing date to be fixed:

Roger Golding, a compositor, of Mill Hill, west London; Neil Irwin, a photographic technician, of Chadwell Heath, Essex; Richard Lovejoy, a printer, of London Colney, Hertfordshire; Stephen Underhill, a photo compositor, of Rainham, Raymond Underhill, a printer, of Rainham; Barry Young, a technician, of Uplminster, Essex; Brian Sweeney, unemployed, of Bromley, south-east London; Raymond Summers, a printer, of Basildon, Essex; Andrew Smith, a printer, of Stanmore, north-west London; David Salmon, a printer, of Romford, Essex; Robert Mulholland, a printer, of East Peckham, Kent; and Pamela Mulholland, a secretary of the same address; Robert Edmead, a printer, of Stepney, east London; and Henry French, a printer, of Battersea, south London.

Call for limit on number of MPs

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

An all-party committee of MPs has called on the Government to prevent any further increase in their own numbers.

Since 1950 there have been four boundary reviews and each has resulted in more constituencies.

The number of MPs has consequently grown from 625 to 650 and the time has come to call a halt, the Home Affairs Committee said in a report published yesterday.

However, while it has pronounced forcefully on the question of MPs numbers, the committee has by its own admission, evaded the burning question of whether there should be more English MPs and correspondingly less from Scotland and Wales.

The report concedes that while it would be technically

simple to achieve parity of representation throughout the United Kingdom, it "would not be feasible on political grounds".

And it blames the constant increase in MPs numbers on a "fundamental defect" in the existing rules for the redistribution of seats.

It recommends that the periodic commissions charged with redrawing constituency boundaries should divide the electorate by a fixed number of "seats" each time, in order to establish electoral quotas.

The commissions, one for each country, would then have limited discretion to add extra seats for geographical reasons, or to avoid invidious discrepancies.

Home Affairs Committee: Redistribution of Seats (Stationery Office: £8.30).

EEC wants reforms to favour poorer farmers

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The EEC is determined that any reform of the Common Agricultural Policy should be at the expense of large, wealthy enterprises.

The Community wants to make sure reforms do as little as possible to hurt the small producers who constitute the great majority of the Community's 12 million farmers.

That commitment was given yesterday to a conference in London by Mr Peter Pooley, the EEC deputy director-general for agriculture.

It carries serious implications for British farmers in particular, whose holdings are several times the EEC average, and contradicts the stance taken by the National Farmers' Union, which is that any cuts should be applied across the board.

Mr Pooley, a former civil servant in the Ministry of Agriculture, said: "We cannot, in my view, limit expenditure and limit production without making agriculture less profitable for a minority of large farmers."

Dismissed judge not to sue

By David Sapsted

Two cross-Channel ferries were involved in separate collisions in the fog yesterday, one of which led to the closure of Harwich harbour, Essex, for two hours last night.

In the Harwich incident, the 17 crew members and the pilot on board the freighter, *Son Salvador*, were taken off when the vessel began settling at the bow after colliding with the Townsend Thoresen ferry *Nordic* near the harbour.

Last night, tugs were standing by the stricken freighter after successfully towing it free of the harbour approach.

Meanwhile, a second ferry, bound for Newhaven, East Sussex, was diverted to answer a mayday call yesterday afternoon when a Filipino freighter was feared to be in danger of sinking after a collision with a tanker off the French coast.

An inspection by a French diving crew, however, found the freighter, the *General Fracinto*, had not been holed.

Ferry in Channel collision

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Mr Manus Nunan, the dismissed crown court recorder, has decided not to bring legal proceedings against the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham, over his removal from office.

But Mr Nunan said yesterday that the whole case justified "beyond a shadow of a doubt the urgent need to establish a judicial service commission to deal with the appointment and dismissal of judges".

Mr Nunan's dismissal in 1984 after a total of nine years as a deputy judge and recorder, was reviewed by the Lord Chancellor last September but his case for reinstatement was rejected.

Mr Nunan, aged 60, a freelance lecturer on Irish literature, said that his Irish citizenship was to blame, in spite of the Lord Chancellor's firm denial.

"I have no doubt that if I had not taken the decision to retain my Irish citizenship, I would be a recorder today."

Judge's explanation of sentences in vicarage rape case

As the controversy over the sentencing in the Ealing vicarage rape case continues, the following is a full text of the remarks made by Mr Justice Leonard on Monday when he sentenced Martin McCall and Christopher Byrne.

The judge also sentenced Jacqueline Defelice for perverting the course of justice and on Tuesday the judge dealt with Robert Horcroft, her common law husband.

The judge told Byrne and McCall:

● You two men were concerned first of all in a wicked offence which was the aggravated burglary at the premises about which I have heard so much about.

It does not matter if it was a vicarage or any other dwelling house, the effect of that kind of conduct is truly terrifying. Burglary in itself is not enough but when it is an aggravated burglary which involves the carrying of weapons and their use as a threat then the threat is really a very serious one.

I propose to deal with that separately from the other matters so far as sentencing is concerned. It seems to me that

the allegation of rape and what went with that and the allegation that you Byrne were concerned in the hitting of the two men over the head are really essentially separate.

They were not part of the original plan. That is why in order to do justice between all the defendants in this, including Horcroft, it seems to me appropriate I should deal with it in this way.

The result may be that I shall pass lighter sentences on those individually separate parts of the matter than I would otherwise do. But that is necessary in my judgement to secure a sensible result otherwise I could be pursuing in total too heavy a sentence.

The circumstances of the aggravated burglary are already sufficiently outlined. The consequences for the people who suffered what you did must be that they will be unable to blot out the memory of what happened from their minds. The effects on other unconnected people who read about this case at the time will no doubt have been frightening enough.

Having got into the vicarage you proceeded to carry things much further. I have been told

in respect of both of you McCall and Byrne were under the influence of drink and drugs. Or certainly in one case. That is no excuse. It does not make it any better. It almost makes it worse. If you behave in this sort of way under the influence of drink you had better stay away from drink forever.

What happened was that a perfectly innocent young girl with no previous sexual experience was subjected by you McCall to a horrifying experience.

You aggravated what you did by the general fitness of your behaviour. It was not simply a matter of intercourse because it was anal intercourse as well and it was even the use of the handle of the knife at one stage.

I cannot possibly pass a sentence on you which properly reflects the horror the public undoubtedly feels because you would be in prison for a disproportionate period of time for a 22-year-old man.

So far as you are concerned Byrne, I accept your part in the rape was to stand by during part of the time it was going and in one way or

another take advantage of the girl sexually while you did so. Whether it is what you have apparently forgotten, oral sex, or whether it was touching her sexually does not really much matter for present purposes.

And then there is your part in the beating of those two men over the head with a cricket bat, the purpose of which was to render them insensible or to try to assist to effect your escape.

You Byrne are the only one of the two I am now sentencing who is charged in this count and I entirely accept for present purposes it was not you who wielded the bat but nevertheless you were there and have pleaded guilty to complicity.

Enough has been said and I have to consider what sentence to pass on the three of you now standing in the dock.

I say very little about you Mrs Defelice because I have said it already. You were very much under the influence of your common law husband and no doubt did what you thought necessary to enable him to escape justice. That is serious. But in your particular circumstances and with your background I do not need to

pay any great regard to it.

I only wish to mention this. That all three of you have no convictions comparable to this for which you now stand before the court. And as far as you McCall and Byrne are concerned nothing comparable with the sentence of aggravated burglary.

Turning to the question of sentence, you, McCall, you stand to be sentenced on aggravated burglary and offences of rape. The least sentence which I can pass for a serious burglary armed with a knife is one of five years in prison.

The sentence for rape ought to be a greater sentence than that and most certainly it is consecutive. Because of your age and because I have been told the trauma suffered by the victim were not so great and because of your penitence and your saving her the ordeal of going into the witness box I shall take a lenient course with you and impose a further sentence of five years to run consecutively to the five years on the first count making a total sentence of 10 years and that is the sentence on you.

You Byrne are in a different position. I have indicated

your limited responsibility in the offence of rape and your limited responsibility in the offences involving the violence to the victim.

I have to mark these matters but I am going to make the sentences on counts two, three and four concurrent though consecutive to the sentence on the first count. (The first count concerned aggravated burglary, the second rape, the third grievous bodily harm on the vicar and the fourth grievous bodily harm on the second man.)

As in the case of McCall the sentence in the first count is one of five years, on the second three years, on the third two years and on the fourth three years which was a very serious assault. Those three sentences will run concurrently but consecutively to the five years on the first count making a sentence of eight years in all. ●

Correction

Miss Jo Richardson, Labour MP for Barking, is not planning to retire, as stated in *The Times* on January 14, but has been re-elected to again at the next general election.

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR THURSDAY FEB. 5th

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(2) The inventory of Persian, Balouchi, Turkish, Russian, Afghanistan, and other origins, are the lots for this auction. They are all direct imports and valuable items withheld from bank consignments, bankruptcies, and other special situations handled by the Group hence not in keeping with the proposed restructuring and planned re-organization.

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Hostess's 'devoted slaves' did all the household chores

Cynthia Payne, the sex party hostess, told the Inner London Crown Court yesterday that she employed a "slave" to do her household chores.

He did the housework, painting and decorating and in return she rewarded him with "a little bit of caning, insults and mild humiliation," she said.

Asked if she ever had sex with her slaves she said: "No, slaves are not interested in sexual intercourse. It would be like growing spuds in a Ming vase."

Mrs Payne, aged 53, said she hated housework and used "devoted slaves" to do the work for her.

"The slave thinks a woman is the superior sex. He adores one particular woman," she said, adding that her slaves did not attend her wild parties. "But they are very useful for cleaning up the next day."

Mrs Payne said one of her slaves was devoted to her for 20 years until he died recently. She would leave some stiletto shoes - the higher the better - inside her front door "to excite him a little".

Mrs Payne, of Ambleside Avenue, Streatham, south London, denies nine charges of controlling prostitutes at her home between December

1985 and May 1986. She told the court that for years she lived with Squadron Leader Robert "Mitch" Smith, who died in 1981. "He was a bit of a kink. He liked to be caned and whipped."

Mr David Spens, for the defence, showed the court a collection of whips, belts, canes and chains taken from Mrs Payne's home after the police raid on her party in May 1986 and asked why she had them.

She said that when the squadron leader died she took the sex aids from his flat in Purley, south London, so his family would not find them. She denied the equipment was ever used at her parties.

As Mr Spens held up a large leather belt, Mrs Payne said the squadron leader had made it for himself to protect his kidneys during a sex session, and added with a giggle: "He put it around his waist before anyone gave him one."

Mrs Payne said her wild parties were a cure for loneliness. "I enjoyed having parties because basically I was lonely. I think everyone else who came was lonely too," she said.

Mr Spens asked Mrs Payne about comments she had made in an article in an Australian magazine. She

agreed she had had several lovers but no husband. She had suffered the loss of three close members of her family and had been through "a miserable time".

She agreed that then, as now, the cure for her black moods was to "throw another party and stuff the lot of them". She had had two sons. One was married with children and lived close to her. The other was adopted at birth, and she had only recently been reunited with him.

She said that since her release from prison in 1980 she had had a steady stream of men knocking at her door wanting favours. She was now afraid to open her front door, and had put her telephone in a false name to avoid unwanted callers.

Cross-examined by Mr Tony Longden, for the prosecution, Mrs Payne agreed her parties were sex parties - but not to be paid for.

She said the girls were a mixed crowd and not all had to be paid. Only a quarter of them were prostitutes.

She said: "I have strip-teasers and scantily dressed girls at my parties. They make everyone happy and give them a nice atmosphere."

The hearing continues.



The British number one, Nigel Short, poised to make a move in the London Docklands Speed Chess Challenge against the world champion Gary Kasparov at The Hippodrome in Leicester Square yesterday. The two-day event is being filmed by Thames Television for transmission on Channel 4 later this month (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

'Ashamed' soccer fan considered priesthood

A football supporter was so ashamed of his part in the Heysel stadium riot that he considered becoming a priest, a court was told yesterday.

James Wallace, aged 25, gave himself up to police and told them: "I could not live with myself after what I saw that night. In fact, I was even thinking of becoming a priest. I am so ashamed of what I was involved in."

"I was singing, that was the sickening thing I was doing. That is what is choking me up. It's disgusting. I should not have been involved."

Mr Michael Sheppard, QC, representing the Belgian government in the extradition hearing at Highbury Corner Magistrates' Court, north London, said yesterday that Mr Wallace, of Manchester Road, Bury, Greater Manchester, had admitted taking part in charges on supporters of the Italian club, Juventus.

Thirty-nine people died at the Heysel stadium before the European Cup final between Liverpool and Juventus in May 1985. The Belgian government is seeking the extradition of 26 Britons who are alleged to have taken part in disturbances before the match, and are accused of the manslaughter of Signor Mario Ronchi.

Mr Sheppard told the hearing that the fans were seen on video recordings and later identified by their distinctive clothing.

An alleged ring leader, Andre Samber, aged 29, of Rudgegate Whiston, Merseyside, was a Superman outfit, which was recovered by detectives from his home.

Another defendant, Gary Haynes, aged 20, of Berrington Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Greater Manchester, wore a Bruce Springsteen T-shirt.

Mr Sheppard told the hearing: "The T-shirt was seen on the washing line in the garden. At first he said it belonged to his younger brother. Then he admitted throwing concrete bricks and bottles at the police. The video shows him throwing missiles towards the Italian supporters, who were covering behind the police."

Barry Rickman, aged 29, of Ipswich, Suffolk, was seen on television wearing a T-shirt marked "Emperors of Rome". He told police: "I hit an Italian on the back of his head. I didn't know people were dying. If I had known I would have stopped what I was doing." The hearing continues.

Animal rights Woman planted fire bomb

By Ian Smith

A misguided young woman living with an Animal Liberation Front activist planted an incendiary bomb which caused damage of more than £200,000 in a fire at Rackham's department store in Sheffield, a crown court was told yesterday.

Under the guise of a potential customer, Julia Rogers, aged 26, slipped the device from inside her shoulder bag and hid it inside a settee in the furniture department shortly before the store closed for the day.

Once her crime was uncovered, Mr David Bentley, QC, for the prosecution, said at Leeds Crown Court, Miss Rogers made a statement to police in which she expressed relief that no one had been injured in the arson attack.

Rogers, of Parson Cross

Road, Sheffield, pleaded guilty to conspiring to commit arson and conspiring to commit criminal damage.

Deputy High Court judge Sir Frederick Lawton delayed passing sentence until a jury returned their verdict on an earlier trial at the same court in which five people are accused of the same offences.

Mr Bentley told the court, whose public gallery was crowded with animal rights supporters, that Rogers was seen going into the Sheffield flat she had shared with an animal rights supporter for the previous two years.

The end-of-terrace house was already under police surveillance and a highly sensitive listening device was hidden by detectives under the floorboards.

Police overheard Rogers

being told of progress being made in the construction of incendiary devices and at one stage of the conversation she was asked to hold an item "while it was worked on".

Mr Bentley said that Rogers, who trained to be a member of the Sheffield Animal Rights Group, had little technical knowledge of incendiary devices and was "a misguided individual used as a tool by others".

Mr Pat O'Connell, for the defence, said that it had taken great courage for Rogers, who has been in police custody for the past six months, to plead guilty to such serious charges. To have refused to have taken part in the conspiracy would have meant her ending the relationship with her boyfriend and vacating the flat they shared.

House prices expected to increase by 12%

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

House prices in the United Kingdom are expected to rise by about 12 per cent this year, the Halifax Building Society says in its survey published yesterday.

During the year to the end of January 1987 prices increased by 13.6 per cent, compared with 13.1 per cent in the year to the end of December 1986.

The Halifax house price index shows that apart from September and December when house price inflation fell to about 13 per cent, it has remained steady at 13.6 per cent since July last year.

Prices of new houses increased in January by 12 per cent, reversing the steady downward trend started in October when new-house price

inflation was 11.4 per cent.

The average price of a new house is now £49,650, compared with the average of all houses of £41,572.

For first-time buyers the annual rate of increase remains steady at about 12.8 per cent, and the average price paid in January was about £31,600.

In London, house price inflation remains steady at about 24 per cent, but the South-east shows a small increase to 23.4 per cent, compared with about 22 per cent in November and December.

House prices in Yorkshire and Humberside increased by 9.5 per cent in the year to January, compared with 7.5 per cent reported last month.

The Halifax House Price Index

Year	Index	ALL HOUSES		NEW HOUSES	
		Index	Annual change %	Index	Annual change %
1983	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1984	107.2	107.2	7.2	106.9	6.9
1985	117.0	117.0	9.1	115.4	8.0
1986	128.9	128.9	10.2	126.6	9.6
1987	145.7	145.7	12.8	141.2	9.5
Quarter 1	120.7	120.7	6.7	119.6	8.0
Quarter 2	122.5	122.5	9.2	120.9	10.8
Quarter 3	123.5	123.5	11.0	125.2	10.0
Quarter 4	131.1	131.1	13.2	129.5	11.3
1988	135.9	135.9	13.5	132.8	10.9
1989	141.0	141.0	8.7	126.3	8.5
1990	142.3	142.3	0.9	127.5	0.9
1991	144.0	144.0	1.2	128.5	0.8
1992	145.7	145.7	1.2	129.5	0.8
1993	147.0	147.0	0.9	130.7	0.9
1994	148.4	148.4	1.0	132.4	1.3
1995	150.0	150.0	1.1	134.2	1.4
1996	151.7	151.7	1.1	136.1	1.4
1997	153.4	153.4	1.1	138.1	1.5

Source: Halifax Building Society

Blackmail attempt 'preposterous'

A Liberal local councillor denied to police that he tried to blackmail a Department of Health and Social Security typist into obtaining confidential information about a rival Labour councillor, Birmingham Crown Court jury was told yesterday.

Police put it to Stephen Kirkham that he had threatened to say that Miss Cath-

erine Purcell, his former election agent, was having an affair with a Liberal councillor unless she handed over a confidential supplementary benefit document on the husband of a Labour councillor, Mrs Carole McKeown.

Det Insp Roger Harris said Mr Kirkham's reaction to the suggestion was that it was "preposterous".

The trial continues.

The trial continues.

Schools sport 'bad for health'

By John Goodbody Sports News Correspondent

The emphasis on competitive sport in schools could affect the future health of Britain's children adversely, a Loughborough University lecturer claimed yesterday.

Mr Len Almond, who is also director of the Health and Physical Education Project, said that he was concerned that everyone should be fit, not just the elite.

He revealed that 63 per cent of Britain's children did no vigorous physical activity outside school hours. He told the last day of a conference on exercise health and the heart, in London, that the current stress on competitive sport at school has not been successful for everyone.

Although he underlined that he was in favour of pupils being able to play competitive sport at school, not everyone responded to it. "If competition is emphasised over-zealously it is counter-productive."

"Rather than stress winning the motivation should be personalised. There should be personal striving so that the individual can improve."

He added that he was in favour of games for everyone and that the important thing is to make them rewarding.

Mr Almond received support from Mr Stuart Biddle, a lecturer at North Staffordshire Polytechnic in the Psychology of Sport and Exercise.

"Children who specialise in one sport - competitive swimming and gymnastics are two examples - had the highest drop-out rate."

"We should be truly educating people for the whole of their lives. Competitive sport has been over-emphasised."

Mr Biddle, editor of a new book, *Foundations of Health-Related Fitness in Physical Education*, said all children should do a variety of activities like recreational swimming, jogging, exercise to music, light weight-training and flexibility exercises.

They should also learn about body weight control and diet. Pupils should be encouraged to succeed in their own way "there is no reason why this should undermine excellence of school teams" he said.

Drink-driver jailed for killing sisters

A motorist who sped down a crowded seafront after a drinking bout and knocked down and killed two sisters, was jailed for two years yesterday.

Cyril Hearn, aged 49, a father of four, had drunk eight pints of lager and was three times over the legal limit when his car hit sisters Olive Wattis, aged 58, and Molly Bath, aged 60, at Weston-super-Mare, Bristol Crown Court was told.

Hearn, of Downside Road, Weston-super-Mare, was also banned from driving for six years after admitting two charges of causing death by reckless driving.

Mr Colin Willis, for the prosecution, said that Hearn was driving at almost 50mph when he hit the sisters, from Erdington and Sheldon in Birmingham.

"Both bodies were carried on the bonnet of the car for some considerable distance."

Mrs Wattis's son Michael said later: "Two years is an insult to the memory of my mother and aunt."

Government cash financed brothel

A brothel was run on government money by two women who dishonestly received £5,260, Newport Magistrates' Court, Gwent, was told yesterday.

While men visited their "health studios" for sexual intercourse, the women were also receiving £40 a week each from the Manpower Services Commission which had advised them on setting up the business.

The payments lasted five months until Civil Servants discovered the true nature of the business.

Bernadette Hughes, aged 32, of Cedar Road, Newport, and Mazreena Ahmed, aged 24, of Prince's Place, Bristol, admitted, jointly, receiving £1,760 from the MSC enterprise allowance scheme by deception after opening a massage and sauna business.

They also pleaded guilty to individual charges of dishonestly obtaining unemployment benefit totalling nearly £3,500.

The court was told that Hughes and Ahmed had attended a business counselling advice meeting with the MSC

and produced bank letters showing they were putting £1,000 of their own money into the venture.

But instead of massage and sauna services, customers at Crystals Studios in Stow Hill, Newport, were being sold a full range of sex. Mr Alisdair Shaw, for the prosecution, told the court.

Although they were warned that no businesses connected with sex or pornography would qualify for the MSC enterprise allowance, they still claimed the grant when their health studios turned into a brothel shortly after opening in April 1985.

Officials of MSC were alerted after a local newspaper raised suspicions in an article about the massage parlour.

When police raided the premises they found customers were paying a £10 entrance fee and waiting in a television lounge to view pornographic films and magazines until a prostitute became available.

The court adjourned sentence for four weeks pending probation reports on the two women.

Warning on cheap new cars

By Daniel Ward Motor Industry Correspondent

Car buyers with £4,000 to spend will get better value from a good secondhand model than from a "bargain basement" new model, the Consumers' Association said yesterday.

"Three years' motoring in a two-year-old Volkswagen Golf or a four-year-old Ford Granada would cost about the same overall as buying and running a new Skoda and trading it in after three years," according to the magazine *Which?*

British buyers don't appear to agree - as Skoda sales increased by 29 per cent last year, though the report cautions it was "the best of the bunch" which included an Austin Mini City, Citroen 2CV and FSO 1300.

Which? recommends buyers with a £4,000 budget to consider a two-year-old "supermini", such as the Ford Fiesta, Vauxhall Nova, Peugeot 205, Nissan Micra or VW Polo.

Pollution is leaving rivers without fish, land bare of trees and beaches filthy, according to this month's issue of *Which?*, published today (Robin Young writes).

One-tenth of rivers and canals in Britain are so polluted that fish can barely live there, the magazine claims.

It says that much of the blame lies with sewage works.

Video film preferred to cinema

By Jonathan Miller Media Correspondent

New evidence documenting Britain's love affair with the video recorder shows that for every person going to see a film at the cinema last year, 10 rented a video cassette to watch one at home.

The most popular cinema film of 1986 was *Back to the Future*, which was seen by 5.3 million people. The most popular video was *Ghostbusters*, seen by 13.1 million.

Data released yesterday by the Cinema Advertising Association shows that video rental is more popular in blue-collar homes than those of professionals and managers.

According to the market research, based on a sample of 2,553 people aged seven and above last October and November, video recorders were more popular in households with children than in homes with people aged 45 and above.

Almost 70 per cent of 15 to 17-year-olds had video recorders in their homes, compared with 30 per cent of those aged 45 and above.

The video boom does not seem to have hurt cinema audiences and may even be lifting them, Mr Brian Gray, market research manager for Rank Screen Advertising, said.

The percentage of all Britons going to the cinema rose from 45 per cent in 1983 to 53 per cent last year.

Time limit urged for child custody proceedings

By Frances Gibb Legal Affairs Correspondent

Disputes over the custody of children in divorce cases should be resolved within three months, the Law Commission has proposed in a consultation paper.

Most custody and access disputes take more than six months to resolve, it says. Although three months may not be a long time for an adult "For a young child it may be forever," it says.

If proceedings are adjourned, and no interim order made, there is no time limit for the settling of the dispute.

Instead, the commission - the Government's law reform body - says there should be a three-month time limit, with the period extended only if that is not against the child's interests.

If that proposal is unacceptable, the six-month time limit which now applies to child custody proceedings should be extended to matrimonial actions such as divorce, nullity or judicial separation.

On supervision orders, which affect 25,000 children now under supervision of

local authorities and probation officers, the commission points out that in the past these were always associated with children in need of protection or control.

But their function has changed and sometimes they are made to help parents to adjust to separation and divorce and resolve problems such as access.

Problems can arise where the purpose of such orders is not clear: either to the family or the supervisor, the commission says. Orders may last indefinitely with nothing

being done, or children find themselves saddled with an order intended to help their parents.

Among a number of suggested changes are that courts should state the purpose of a supervision order, that such orders should be initially for one year, unless the court specifies otherwise, that such an order should not be made where the child is in care, and the power to make it should not depend on whether an order for custody or care and control exists.

Care, Supervision and Interim

Orders in Custody Proceedings: working paper 100 (Stationery Office, £2.80).

A divorce course for children has been started in Cleveland, where there were 2,000 broken marriages last year. Teenagers have group talks about the problems of parents parting, and children as young as five can confide in trained counsellors.

Mr Jim Wheatley, an organizer of Divorce Experience in Middlesbrough, said yesterday: "It helps if they talk to someone new because their loyalties are often split between their parents."

Inquiry sought into Keays complaints

The Home Secretary has been asked by Mr Alfred Dubs, Labour MP for Battersea, to investigate various incidents reported by Miss Sara Keays, the former mistress of Mr Cecil Parkinson.

One concerned a warning by the Avon and Somerset Police of a possible armed raid on her father's home in Marksbury in January last year, after which she moved in with him. The raid did not take place but her own home near by was broken into.

Portfolio Gold Winner is amazed at good luck

Yesterday two winners shared the daily Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000. One was Mr John Currie, aged 31, warden of a youth hostel in Warrington, near Arundel, in West Sussex.

He was amazed to hear of his good fortune, having only played sporadically since Portfolio Gold began.

"I am going to pay off my bank loan, pay off my brother for lending me the money to go on honeymoon and put the rest in the building society," he said.

Mr Currie, who married his wife, Johanne, in November is looking forward to the day they buy their own house, and the building society account will be the foundation for that, he hopes.

The other winner was Mrs Fru Segal, aged 50, a secretary from Barnet in north London. She has been playing since Portfolio Gold started. "I am going to give some of my prize to the children, spend some on the house and perhaps the rest on a holiday," she said.

"I'm thrilled, because I was adding up the numbers while I was on the phone, so I thought I must have made a mistake," she said.

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Mr John Currie will invest in a building society.

Ramblers give National Trust hill site

A hill in the Peak National Park, 1,600 feet high has been bought for the National Trust by the Ramblers' Association, it was announced yesterday.

The seven-acre site at South Head Hill, near the village of Hayfield, Derbyshire, gives fine views over a wide area.

Mr Alan Mattingly, director of the Ramblers' Association, said they had funded the purchase as a memorial to the late Dr Frank Head, a Manchester man who served for 40 years on the executive committee of the association.

Caravan pair found gassed

A retired Nottinghamshire policeman and his wife were found gassed in their holiday caravan at Virsac, near Bordeaux in France, an inquest was told yesterday.

The inquest on Arthur Shirley, aged 60, and his wife, Hilda, aged 59, of Cross Street, Sturton Lee Steeple, near Retford, Nottinghamshire, was adjourned for reports from the French authorities.

Wife's murder in 1965 denied

Bryan Masterman, aged 47, of Newland Street West, Lincoln, yesterday appeared before Nottingham Crown Court charged with murdering his first wife, Janet, at their Nottingham home in May 1965.

Mr Masterman, a senior prison officer at Morton Hall open prison near Lincoln, denies the charge.

Death-crash driver jailed

A man who caused death by reckless driving and fled the scene just seven weeks after being banned was jailed for three and a half years yesterday by Gloucester Crown Court.

Terence

February 4 1987

PARLIAMENT

Police debate request refused

A Labour MP failed in an attempt to get an emergency debate in the Commons on what he said was the need for the immediate publication of the report of the Independent Police Complaints Authority on the role of Inspector Douglas Lovelock in the shooting of Mrs Cherry Groce in her Brighton home in 1985. Last month the inspector found not guilty of charges in connection with the shooting after standing trial at the Old Bailey.

Mr Stuart Holland (Vauxhall, Lab) said that publication would make clear whether there had been an investigation of the claim that Mr Lovelock had been drinking 13 hours the previous day on hazardous work and whether he had been drinking in the same strip club as nine officers from the Hertfordshire force against whom disciplinary charges had been brought.

It would also make clear whether or not Mr Lovelock had admitted that he had been drinking and did not wish to take part in the armed search of Mrs Groce's home.

Tory protest over spy film

Mr Antony Marlow (Northampton, Con) complained to the Speaker about the reported intention of a Labour front-bench spokesman to show the BBC film about the Zircos spy satellite "all over Scotland". He said that that was contrary to the rules of the House, which prevented MPs from taking actions which brought the Commons into "odium, contempt or ridicule".

Land sales continue

The amount of land owned by public bodies and available for building has fallen below 100,000 acres for the first time, Mr John Patten, Minister for Housing, Urban Affairs and Construction, said at Commons question time. The Government would continue to use its powers to force sales.

Disaster upon disaster

Asked at question time to confirm that the reorganization of local government in the early 1970s was a disaster, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said: "I have to be careful because I cannot remember which disaster fell before or after I resigned from the Government at the time".

Ridley's move

Rejecting the invitation of a Conservative backbencher to advise the elderly to think carefully before retiring to places away from the areas where their friends, families and workplaces had been, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said that when he retired he intended to get as far away as possible.

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Rate-support Bill wins its second reading

GRANTS LAW

The Government Bill to abolish the local government finance procedure known as grant recycling was read a second time in the Commons despite protests from the Opposition.

Their spokesman said that the Bill, the Rate Support Grants Bill, was yet another chapter in a Byzantine saga. It was a further part of the tangled mess of the Government's own creation.

Mr Rhodes Boyson, Minister for Local Government, moving the second reading, said that this was a positive and progressive new measure designed to improve the operation of the rate-support grant system.

It was being brought in at least until a new system of local government finance was introduced, which would be no later than the first session of the next Parliament.

Under the present system, if the sum total of actual grant entitlements was calculated to be more or less than the sum originally made available, then the poundage schedule governing grant distribution was reset for all authorities in a supplementary report so that the aggregate of authorities' grants was equal to the original amount.

So when authorities spent more and lost grant entitlement, the resulting under-claim was eventually redistributed among all authorities on a common poundage basis. Hence the term "grant recycling".

This process continued periodically for some time after the grant year began, as new and better information about authorities' actual expenditure became available.

The procedures of the present system had a number of disadvantages which had become apparent to the Government and to many local authorities.

The most important of these was that local authorities had no certainty as to their likely grant entitlements at the crucial stage when they were setting their budgets and their rates for the forthcoming year.

A further disadvantage was that any grant recycled was distributed to both high and low-spending councils alike.

It was generally acknowledged that the abolition of grant recycling would bring greater certainty and stability to authorities' block grant.

The Association of County Councils, Welsh Counties Committee and the Association of District Councils had welcomed the principle of the Government proposals, although they and many of the individual authorities which had commented qualified this by wishing that more grant could be made available or that the settlement spending assumption was higher.

It was not true, as Opposition MPs would probably seek to suggest, that the abolition of grant recycling would automatically wipe out part of the substantial real terms increase in the total amount of Exchequer grant available to local authorities in England next year.

There was nothing automatic about it. If authorities could restrain their spending increase

next year to the settlement assumption—which in England, rate-limited authorities excepted, was 5% per cent in current terms, well above the expected level of inflation—they would be able to claim in full the extra block grant made available. He hoped they did so.

If some authorities chose to increase spending beyond this assumed level they would lose grant, as was the case now. The difference under this Bill was that they could no longer hope to regain some of the grant through recycling.

The Bill would end the uncertainties and illogicalities. Unlooked-for sums of grant would no longer wash into authorities' accounts long after their rates for the year had been set and the Government would not take away grant to pay for some sudden increase in another authority's entitlement.

From now on, if the Bill became law, an authority's grant would depend on its own spending decisions alone, which could only help to improve its accountability to the ratepayer.

Mr John Fraser, an Opposition spokesman on the environment, said today added another chapter to a Byzantine saga. This Bill, read with last week's Bill, removed the challenge of the courts to past rate-support grant decisions and introduced new and wide discretion.

It was a further part of the tangled mess of the Government's own creation.

This was the forty-second legislative skirmish between the Government and local councils since 1979. Although this Bill was only three clauses long, it was another milestone along the road of muddle, misanthropy and sometimes plain malevolence in the administration of the rate-support grant system.

It was a Bill which had huge financial consequences for local authorities and diminished the promised increase in support for local authorities claimed only last year.

At present the rate-support grant went from taxpayers via the Treasury to local councils and was calculated as a fixed global sum shared among local councils according to Government assessments of their needs.

Mr David Smith (Bury South, Con) said that a council had advertised for its Director of Social Services in *Labour Weekly* (Labour cheer). Was that an indication that only socialists need apply? He asked for firm action to stop the abuse.

Mr Chope: I am surprised that a member of its direct works department.

Proposals for a uniform business rate contained in a recent Green Paper would give central Government control over 80 per cent of local government income.

Mr Chope: The matter of *Labour Weekly* is for the people who run it. They are trying to find it out of ratepayers' money.

I would not want MPs to think that this abuse is limited to *Labour Weekly*. In the January issue of *Marxism Today*, Harrogate council is advertising for a member of its direct works department.

Advertisements for local government officers in party political publications are inconsistent with the long tradition of politically impartial local government.

New extremist Labour councillors should not be dismissed as the "loony-left": they were effective political operators pursuing a strategy which endangered the roots of democracy.

Some were intent on promoting policies outside the remit of local government rather than on improving local services. Others followed policies offensive to the philosophical and religious convictions of local citizens.

Others were operating in ways that were essentially undemocratic and designed to overthrow democratic institutions.

Traditionally, local government was concerned with local services and did not use ratepayers' money in trying to influence or interfere with matters of national government. But

the Trotskyite, Socialist Workers group were set on spending millions of pounds on issues such as national defence and foreign aid.

Some of these councils realized that their policies were so unpopular that they even had to hire public relations companies to improve their image.

Lord Skidmarsh, the Government spokesman, said that policies of these new high-spending, left-wing councils were well known. But the Labour Party's only remedy was a plan to give these outrageous convictions of local citizens more money, and to remove existing controls over their activities.

Lady David, from the Opposition front bench, said that Lady Cox had spoken of extremists and councillors being undemocratic, but her own speech had been extreme and undemocratic, because if these councils were so bad and un-

popular, it was up to the electors to use their votes to find people they preferred.

The Opposition did not wish to defend inefficiency or waste or incompetence, but no one was suggesting anything other than that a small minority were being discussed.

The large majority of Labour-controlled councils were efficient and well run. Good management was to be commended, but good management alone would not solve the grave problems that the most disadvantaged councils faced. Nor could central government alone solve them. The poor relationship between central and local government had not helped.

As local government was having to take note of the criticism of the Audit Commission report, so too ought central government take note of the criticism made about it.



Mr Rhodes Boyson: Local authorities that spend too much will lose their grant.

Ministers trying to stop council job adverts in party papers

The Government is discussing with local authority associations the code of recommended practice designed to prevent vacancies for jobs in local authorities being advertised in party political publications.

Mr Christopher Chope, Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, said during questions.

He added later that these who were running *Labour Weekly*, the Labour Party publication, were trying to find it from ratepayers' money.

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ENVIRONMENT

Dr John Cunningham, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment, said during Commons questions.

Mr Christopher Chope, Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, said that he did not accept those figures. Non-domestic rates concealed the true cost of local services to the council taxpayer. Out of every £10 raised in rates, an average of £6 was paid by non-domestic ratepayers.

Mr William Waldegrave, Minister for Environment, Countryside and Planning, acknowledged during Commons questions that there were not enough local residents among the people appointed by county and local authorities to national parks' planning boards.

He added that the case of the people who live in the parks as well as those who visit them from outside.

'Democracy in danger'

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London worst for the homeless

About 100,000 households were accepted as homeless by local authorities in the year ended in September 1985, but they had all been found accommodation.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said during Commons questions.

He said that the places where the problems were greatest were the famous eight London boroughs, where the inefficiency and iniquity were greatest causing much the most deep suffering for those without homes.

Those eight local councils, singled out in an Audit Commission report, were spending about £20 million a year on nonsense and political propaganda of one sort or another, money which could be used on the homeless instead of being wasted on zealotry.

Mr John Fraser, an Opposition spokesman on the environment, said that the disgraceful figure of 100,000 homeless people a year was a record. The Opposition regarded it as a callous misjudgement to think that people in hostels and bed and breakfast accommodation were properly housed.

That accommodation, the Government acknowledged, cost much more than building a home. It was a crazy form of economic waste. A government reduced by at least 100,000 a year the number of houses being built for homes, then the consequences would be such disgraceful figures as the one just announced.

Mr Ridley said that the solution to the problem was to bring into use the empty council houses.

Mr Patrick McLoughlin (West Derbyshire, Con) of the 108 people who make up the membership of boards of the seven national parks in England and Wales only 42 live in the areas of the parks. In the case of the Peak planning board, of the eight people appointed by the county council only one lives in the area of the Peak park.

What other planning authorities are there where people are not directly elected and do not have to meet certain specific times of living within the area?

Mr Waldegrave: There is a problem, particularly in the Peak, with the political divisions. The council supporters of the Labour Party tend to live in the cities rather than the countryside. Those Labour-controlled councils should take care to represent the interests of the people who live in the parks as well as those who visit them from outside.

Mr Hurd's explanation that "the material on which the programmes were based is so interwoven that it was not possible immediately to disentangle one kind of material from another" seems on the face of it extraordinary.

It was not evident from the debate whether the Lord Advocate had played an active role in drawing up the applications for the warrants. But unless there are further revelations I doubt if there will be any more political fallout from this particular episode.

Yet this is but the latest in a series of cases involving secret in one way or another that have caused disquiet. What has gone wrong? There have, I believe, been two failings which are separate but reinforcing.

The first is the unsatisfactory state of the law. The inadequacy of the Official Secrets Act is well known. To interpret Section 2 literally would be absurd. This has meant that the efficacy of the law has depended upon the discretion with which it is applied.

That is not necessarily a bad thing. There is a perfectly reasonable argument that the sensitive application of a vague law might work better in practice than the rigid application of a more precise law. But such an arrangement, whereby the operation of the law is governed not by a literal reading of the statute but by convention, requires confidence in the way that discretion is exercised.

Unfortunately public confidence in the law officers has been declining. That is largely, I believe, because of the cavalier way in which they have been treated by the Prime Minister.

Law officers' role anomalous

The role of politicians who are both members of a government and legal advisers to that government is somewhat anomalous. Like most anomalies in public life it can work admirably so long as there is confidence in it. But when the Prime Minister himself is insensitive to the special function of the law officers it is not surprising that confidence is undermined.

When conventions wither laws must sprout. Reform of the Official Secrets Act has therefore become urgent. The old loose arrangement will no longer serve. It is equally necessary to restore the standing of the law officers.

The next election does not depend upon it. But the country feels uncomfortable when any government is thought not to have proper regard for such matters.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Social Fund (Maternity and Funeral Expenses) Bill, second reading. British Railways (Statutory) Bill, third reading.

Lords (3): Debtors (Scotland) Bill, committee. Territorial Sea Bill and Coal Industry Bill, second readings.



Geoffrey Smith

One of the marks of a civilized society is what it finds disturbing. The most important feature of the House of Commons debate on the Special Branch raid on the BBC in Scotland is that it took place at all. It was a reflection of the unease felt by many people who would normally regard themselves as staunch supporters of the police.

But did the debate do more than symbolize that anxiety? It was not to my mind politically conclusive. Some of the most persuasive speeches raised two questions in particular. Did the court allow the warrant for the raid to be drawn too broadly? And did the police then interpret their powers under the warrant too broadly?

Was this an act of bullying?

They may have done. But neither of these questions relates directly to the responsibility of the Government. Ministers cannot be held to blame for the decisions of a court. Nor do they control the operational conduct of the police.

The critical political question was whether the raid was initiated or encouraged by the Government. Was this an act of petty bullying in a vendetta against the BBC?

The Home Secretary specifically denied that any minister had sought to direct or influence the investigation.

So what about the law officers? We know that the Lord Advocate had to approve the terms of the application for the warrants. That was legally necessary before they could go before the court. It seems a little strange that he agreed to a warrant in such broad terms. Why did the police need to be given authority to take away film and documents on all six programmes in *The Secret Society* series?

Mr Hurd's explanation that "the material on which the programmes were based is so interwoven that it was not possible immediately to disentangle one kind of material from another" seems on the face of it extraordinary.

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Politicians blamed for the slump in levels of education

By Mark Dowd, Education Reporter

A leading university official has criticised politicians for presiding over a deteriorating education system.

Sir John Mason, president of the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST), claims it is destroying the morale of teachers and is producing pupils with poor standards of numeracy and literacy, who fail to meet industry's needs.

He also said yesterday that if current trends continue some universities could lose their research capabilities and become centres for teaching only, with long-term analysis being confined to a few institutions.

Addressing officials and academic staff at UMIST, Sir John said that the decline in social status and authority of the teacher was one of the most worrying developments in Britain today.

"Teaching is now an unattractive profession and in some of our inner city schools almost an impossible one," he said.

Any graduate with even a third class degree in mathematics or physics can get a much better paid job in computing with a fraction of the hassle.

"Perhaps even more serious in the long run is the rapid decline in the status of the teaching profession, where morale is said to be at the lowest ebb in living memory."

Schools had been used as political footballs and as instruments of social engineering, with the result that pupils' welfare had been relegated beneath political ideology and advantage, Sir John said.

Most of the increase in central government in the science budget for 1987-88 - up £39 million on the previous year - was likely to be accounted for by large increases in contributions to international agencies, because of the sharp fall in the value of the pound.

"It is deeply disappointing to meet that resources for science and technology have not increased significantly during the past year and there is little sign of material improvement in the near future," Sir John said.

In a controversial proposal, which will be eyed warily by many university staff, Sir John said he wanted academics to submit themselves to continuous assessment with wider salary differentials to reward effort and talent.

"I would like to see a staff member who takes his full teaching load, runs a major research group and who really supervises his students paid a good deal more than one who does the bare minimum," he said.

Hertfordshire's county education committee meets on February 16 to discuss the outcome of public consultations on proposed mergers and closures of secondary schools in the county.

Closed-circuit television will be used to relay the proceedings to an overspill of the public in neighbouring committee rooms.

The debate is being divided into three periods, and advice is being issued on likely starting times so that people with an interest in particular schools will not waste time sitting through the full meeting.

An extensive public consultation has just ended on the authority's "Secondary Review", aimed at reducing surplus school places, caused by falling rolls.

The committee will now examine public response and prepare proposals for the full council at a further meeting on March 10.



Just O'Neill, development officer of the All-England Women's Lacrosse Association, preparing for the launch of pop lacrosse at the Docklands Arena in east London yesterday.

The game is played with plastic rackets and a lightweight ball and the court can be set up anywhere. The ice hockey-type goals of the senior game are replaced by a designated target, a chair, small net or even posts drawn on a wall.

Pop lacrosse is being aimed at schools

and youth clubs as a game that can be played by either sex, at any age and can be set up with minimal cost. No body contact is allowed and the only real rule is that no player may hold on to the ball for more than four seconds.

Coaches are being brought from the United States to teach it in schools, a programme has been made for Channel 4's *Minority Sports Challenge* series and a women's showcase match between England and Scotland is being played at

the Queen's Park Rangers ground in west London on March 7.

The lacrosse association has a membership of 1,000, although it is claimed that the full version of the game is played by more than 40,000 women.

Mr Phil Collier, the National Development Officer of the English Lacrosse Union, the men's body, also hopes that pop lacrosse will lead to a boom in the sport.

(Photograph: Hugh Routledge)

Captain censured over loss of ship

The captain of a British cargo ship which sank after being hit broadside by another vessel was found to be negligent yesterday by a special inquiry.

Captain Graham Calderbank, from Liverpool, was master of the 650-ton *Xanthos*, worth more than £100,000 when it sank in the Dover Strait in May 1985.

He was attempting to cross a busy shipping lane when the German cargo ship, *Rosita Maria*, rammed his ship.

The captain and the crew of three jumped overboard, and were quickly picked up by a passing ferry.

Captain Calderbank had been accused of negligence and incompetence at a Department of Transport inquiry held in Chatham, Kent.

Judge Richard Nevin and a marine assessor, Captain Eric Beetham, heard 10 allegations including Captain Calderbank's failure to keep a proper lookout, failure to use the radar correctly, and failure to take proper action to avoid a collision.

The judge said that the accident was the culmination of small incidents which amounted to grave negligence.

Captain Calderbank was allowed to keep his certificate of competency but was censured.

Colonel 'bullying man', court told

A retired colonel who is suing Lloyds Bank over its allegedly unlawful attempt to take possession of his house, was described by a witness yesterday as "a bullying gentleman with a violent temper".

Mr Frederick Grainger, an assistant bank manager, denied assaulting the colonel's wife, Mrs Barbara Owen, with a pickaxe handle during the attempt to enforce the bank's rights as mortgagee of the couple's £153,000 farmhouse, Greenbanks, at Ellesmere, Shropshire.

Mr David Owen, aged 57, and his wife are suing the bank, Mr Grainger, Mr Arthur Sumner and Mr Anthony Good, the Ellesmere branch manager, in the High Court for damages arising out of the incident. The defendants deny assault and acting unlawfully.

Mr Grainger told Deputy Judge Michael Ogden, QC, that while he and Mr Sumner, a carpenter employed by Lloyds to change the locks, were at the house Mr Owen turned up and demanded to be let in.

"I pointed out to him as calmly as I was able that Lloyds Bank were mortgagees in possession of the house and we couldn't allow him to enter."

The colonel picked up a piece of timber and smashed a pane of glass. "I tried to reason

with the colonel as best I could. It was a slightly frightening situation."

Mr Grainger, now an assistant manager at the bank's Oswestry branch, agreed that during the incident in October 1983 he picked up a pickaxe handle which he had earlier brought into the house. But he denied waving it about or hitting Mrs Owen with it.

Mrs Owen climbed through a kitchen window and started "screaming hysterically" that he and Mr Sumner had no right to be there. "At no time was she struck by Mr Sumner or myself," he said.

Mr Good told the court that at the time Greenbanks was put on the market, the colonel owed Lloyds a sum approaching £120,000.

He denied that he had been in the house, carrying a pickaxe handle, after going there initially with Mr Sumner, he had returned to his bank.

He went back to Greenbanks later that day and entered the house with two police officers because he thought there was going to be trouble. The colonel and his wife were "highly wound up", he said.

Mr Good said that he had not instructed bank employees to arm themselves in an attempt to keep the Owens out of their home.

The hearing continues.

Detective forged grant form

A detective who forged university grant application forms for two of his sons was given a suspended prison sentence yesterday.

David Baber, aged 44, a regional crime squad sergeant, of Town Mill Gardens, Tavistock, Devon, admitted attempting deception and falsifying a tax form to support his grant application. He was given a three-month jail term for each offence, to run concurrently, suspended for one year.

Mr Mark Evans, for the prosecution, said a Devon County Council awards clerk noticed that Baber had altered an inland Revenue form to indicate he and his wife's joint earnings were £3,800 lower than they actually were.

Baber was allowed to retire from the police four days ago.

Dog judge on cruelty charges

An internationally known dog breeder and judge could be tried in her absence on charges of causing cruelty to 67 cats and dogs.

Magistrates at North Walsham, Norfolk, yesterday ruled that 22 charges against Olympe Harbottle-Barnes, aged 57, would go ahead on February 18 and 19, even if she did not appear.

She has been in hospital since January 7, when she was found collapsed at her home at Ingham New Hall, Ingham, Norfolk, on the day she should have been before the court.

Mrs. Lorraine Tucker, for the prosecution, said that five attempts to get the case to court had failed.

The costs of caring for the animals already stood at £11,923.

MPs call for fresh link with Vietnam

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Government must urge America to resume relations with communist Vietnam and should relax its own rigid policies towards that country, a senior all-party committee of MPs said yesterday.

In a unanimous report that challenged conventional views on Vietnam, the Tory-controlled foreign affairs select committee described the appalling economic plight of the country.

It concluded that Vietnam's orientation was in large part due to the lack of economic ties with the West.

It said that such ties could be established only with America's agreement. The Vietnamese authorities were "genuinely keen" to co-operate on the highly emotive question of American servicemen still missing after the

Vietnam war, and this could be more easily resolved by re-establishing normal relations.

Sir Anthony Kershaw, the committee chairman, said that there were "very few" such servicemen, and it was "unrealistic" of America to "insist on every last detail about these poor people".

The report said that other countries were actively promoting trade with Vietnam and the long-term commercial possibilities were considerable.

The committee recommends a number of modest cultural initiatives that Britain could undertake now, and the creation of a common EEC policy towards Vietnamese aid and trade.

Foreign Affairs Committee: South East Asia and Indo-China. (Stationery Office, £9.70).

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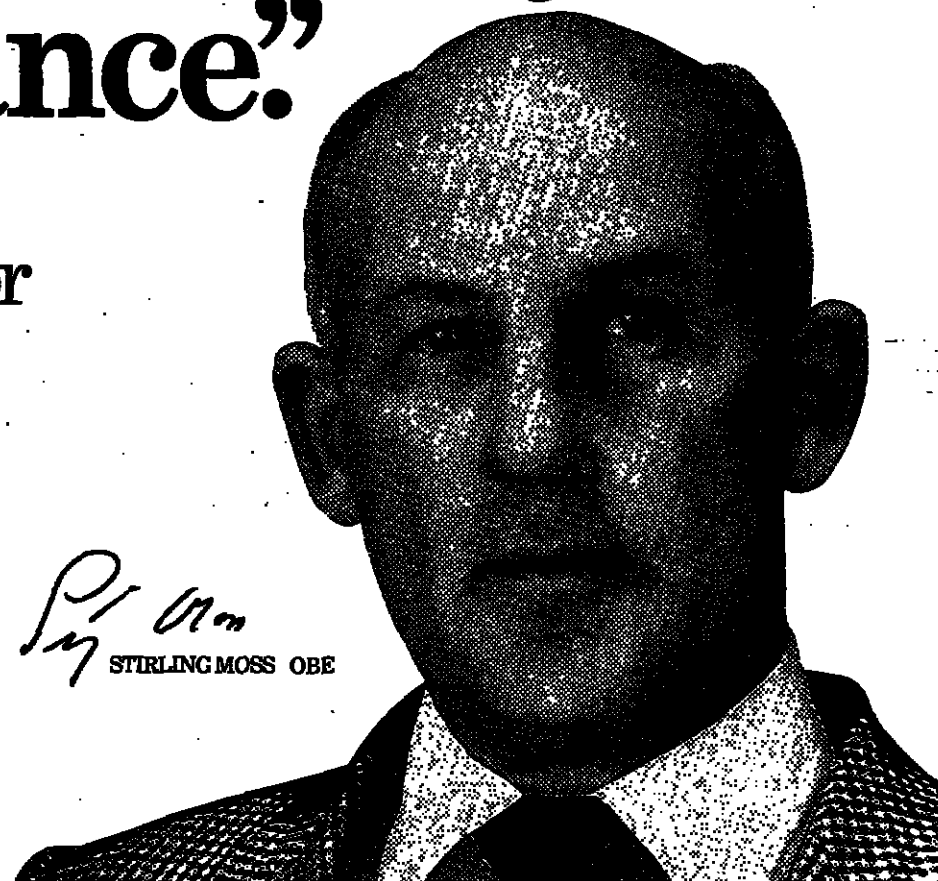
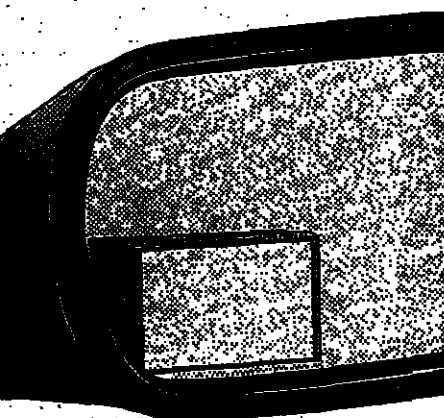
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Do you have any previous motor insurance? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Do you require a driving licence? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Do you intend to drive any other vehicles? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Please give details of all persons who will or may drive your car

Name	Age	No. of yrs. full U.K. licence held
Principal driver		
Secondary driver		
Other driver		

Please tick type of cover required: Comprehensive ☐ Third Party Fire & Theft ☐

Voluntary excess £20 ☐ £100 ☐ £1000 ☐

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Year of manufacture

Registration mark

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I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, all the above statements are true and complete and that I have declared all facts which are material to and might influence the acceptance and assessment of my proposed and anticipated claim but failure to do so means that the policy may not protect me. I agree that the proposal and conditions shall form the basis of any contract, whether or not stated in the policy and the Company.

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Expulsion for US journalist accused of spying by Iran

Tehran (Reuters, AP) — Iran yesterday expelled Mr Gerald Seib, the US journalist who was arrested last weekend on espionage charges. An Information Ministry official said Mr Seib, Cairo-based correspondent of *The Wall Street Journal*, was expelled after a judicial investigation of his case.

Mr Seib had been invited to Iran with a group of 57 foreign journalists to visit Gulf War battle fronts. The official said he had been banned from returning to Iran.

The pro-government *Kayhan* newspaper said yesterday that Mr Seib had tried to obtain "detailed information about defensive positions and tactics" of the Iranian forces on the war fronts, but expressed doubt that he could have gathered much intelligence.

"If he has not been able to gather important intelligence, he should be freed immediately," *Kayhan* said in a comment written before the announcement of Mr Seib's expulsion.

"If his journalistic character overshadows his spy activities, he should have the necessary immunity because... he has come here with our own authorization," the newspaper said.

Mr Jim Fusilli, a spokesman for *The Wall Street Journal*, said he was aware of a report that Mr Seib, who had been in Iran for 10 days when he was seized outside his hotel in Tehran, "has been or is being (released) but we know nothing further".

A State Department spokeswoman in Washington said yesterday she knew nothing

about reports of Mr Seib being expelled. Another State Department spokesman, Mr Charles Redman, said on Tuesday that the United States had protested about Mr Seib's detention and demanded his release.

The Swiss Embassy in Tehran, which has represented US interests there since the 1979 Iranian revolution, refused to comment on the case yesterday.

Tehran radio on Monday accused Mr Seib of entering the country with a false passport disguised as a journalist.

Mr Warren Phillips, the chairman of *The Wall Street Journal*, described the detention as a dreadful mistake and said Mr Seib had been seized "without any cause at all".

Mr Seib has been with the paper since 1978 and has covered the Middle East from Cairo since 1985.

Referring to the presence of the US Sixth Fleet in the eastern Mediterranean, the Prime Minister of Iran, Mr Hussein Mussavi, said: "America must know that any kind of attack on Muslims anywhere in the world will not go unanswered."

"Muslims have the capability to respond to any kind of attack and America will certainly not achieve anything from it."

● **BAHRAIN:** President Saddam Hussein of Iraq yesterday reviewed the situation on the southern war front, where Iran launched a cross-border offensive on January 9, with senior military commanders but no details were released (Reuters reports).

After Khomenei, page 12



Skaters taking advantage of mild temperatures and a sunny day make a tour of lakes near Bleiswijk in The Netherlands.

The mystery of Terry Waite

Ex-hostage urges caution

By Paul Valley

A warning of the dangers of speculation about the fate of Mr Terry Waite came yesterday from one of the hostages whom the Archbishop of Canterbury's envoy rescued from a Libyan prison two years ago.

Mr Robin Plummer, who was one of four hostages detained by the Gaddafi regime for nine months in 1984, yesterday said that certain kinds of press comment, which might on the surface seem insignificant, could be highly prejudicial to Mr Waite's safety.

"Even the most innocuous stuff, misconstrued, can be dangerous. His safety could be jeopardized by the most milk-and-water comment," said Mr Plummer, an engineer who is now working in London. "I am sure that whoever Mr Waite is

with he will be dealing with them as he deals with everybody, with his usual generosity and warmth. He will be coping as well as anyone can in that situation. But to say anything more about his attitude or method of operating in these situations would not be helpful."

"What people here do not realize is that over in places like that you're dealing with people whose response begins from a different starting point and whose method of doing things stems from a wholly different historical and cultural background."

"For one thing, people there may not understand the notion of an independent press. They might find it difficult to understand that things can appear in newspapers here without Government sanction. So com-

ments which are made by people who do not have a deep understanding of the culture there risk the danger of being seriously misinterpreted."

Mr Plummer spoke of the disquiet of his fellow-hostages in Tripoli whenever they learned of some acerbic or satirical comment from Britain. "When I got back and saw some of the videos of the TV coverage I cringed."

It was important that the media should continue to write about the fate of Mr Waite, even when there were no new developments to report. "If they keep the pot boiling that helps to keep up the public interest."

Mr Plummer was one of four British hostages detained in the period after Britain broke off diplomatic relations with Colonel Gaddafi.

Waite held prisoner in Beirut

Continued from page 1

stated publicly their demands for his release, but Mrs Thatcher has made it clear that Britain is not prepared to negotiate for hostages.

The Druze leader, Mr Walid Jumblatt, who guaranteed Mr Waite's safety, is highly embarrassed by the deadlocked situation and is pursuing all efforts to free Mr Waite.

Neither Lambeth Palace nor the Foreign Office has publicly confirmed that Mr Waite is being held, but they have been unable to explain his disappearance for more than two weeks.

A spokeswoman for the palace said yesterday: "Mr Waite has had nothing to do with any sort of deal relating to arms, money or people."

Some reports in Beirut said Mr Waite was being held and "investigated" by the men he was dealing with in his efforts to win the release of Mr Anderson and Mr Sutherland.

Radical members of Islamic Jihad were said to be furious by the lack of progress in efforts to secure the release of the prisoners of Kuwait and viewed Mr Waite with increased suspicion.

According to the independent *An Nahar* daily, Muslim politicians and religious leaders had taken up the envoy's case during an extraordinary meeting on Monday. It said the Muslim leaders issued a strongly-worded statement condemning all kidnappings as an un-Islamic act.

Terror suspect

Pointe-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe (AP) — A suspected terrorist was taken into custody on Tuesday in connection with a crime for which he had been convicted four years ago, authorities said.

WORLD SUMMARY

Ceausescu ticks off Gorbachov

Belgrade — Always out of step with Soviet bloc trends, President Ceausescu of Romania has voiced strong disapproval of the reforms being introduced in the Soviet Union (Dessa Trevisan writes).

While not actually naming Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, he reminded the Soviet leadership that market socialism and the existence of small private enterprises were "incompatible with socialism, regardless of how this is being justified". He warned the reformists in Moscow that their proposed reforms represented a backward step and that they were violating "the principles of scientific socialism". All socialist countries must respect "the principles of scientific socialism and communism," he said in two separate speeches, emphasizing that the leading role of the Communist Party must be reinforced.

Limited glasnost

Mr Timothy Renton, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, flew home yesterday after becoming the first British minister to meet members of two Czechoslovak movements which have suffered persecution, Charter 77 and the Czechoslovak Jazz Section.

However, the Prague version of *glasnost* proved limited. Some of the members Mr Renton had expected to meet were barred by the authorities.

Garrison staff

Hong Kong — The British and the Hong Kong governments are to set up a joint working group to discuss the future of about 4,500 local employees of the British garrison, which will be withdrawn in 1997 when full sovereignty over Hong Kong reverts to the People's Republic of China (David Bonavia writes).

About one-third of local employees are uniformed members of the armed forces. The rest are civilian employees.

Chinese warning

Peking (Reuters) — China yesterday warned foreign journalists not to get involved in the case of the expulsion of an American reporter, Lawrence MacDonnell, saying it had nothing to do with them. The Foreign Ministry refused to receive a delegation from the Foreign Correspondents' Club, which wanted to present a letter from 43 journalists expressing "deep concern" over his expulsion last Friday. The journalists, who work for Agence France-Presse, was put on a plane to Hong Kong after being required to sign an expulsion order accusing him of activities incompatible with his status. He said the real reason was a desire by Chinese conservatives to intimidate foreign reporters.

Ideological backlash, page 9

Liberace last rites

Los Angeles — Last rites were given yesterday to Liberace, the flamboyant pianist, as he lapsed into a coma at his home in the California desert community of Palm Springs. "It looks like death is imminent," Liberace's lawyer, Mr Joel Strote, said as scores of fans, some travelling thousands of miles, gathered outside the house.

Campus turmoil

Dhaka — At least 30 students were arrested in an early morning swoop by police on a Dhaka University dormitory, leading to violence in which a teacher was stabbed and Dr Abdul Mannan, the Vice Chancellor, was taken hostage by students (Ahmed Fazi writes). Those arrested were leaders of the Nationalist Students Party.

Japanese get there



Tokyo (AP) — The Japanese National Railway said yesterday its experimental manned "linear car", floating a few inches above the track on a magnetic cushion, sped up to 250 miles an hour, breaking the world speed record held by West Germany. The MLU 001, above, achieved the speed during a test run in Miyazaki, southern Japan.

The new CIA director

Pendulum swings to analysis

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Mr Robert Gates, the fresh-faced 43-year-old intelligence analyst who has taken over as director of the Central Intelligence Agency, is the first insider to run the sprawling intelligence empire for over a decade. And already politicians and analysts are giving him a warm welcome, predicting overwhelming support for him in the Senate during his nomination hearings.

Mr Gates is an ambitious man with good credentials. At a time when the Administration is grappling with the efforts to reach an arms agreement with Moscow, President Reagan will have at his side a specialist with a Ph D in Soviet history, a man who has been poring over the minutiae of what goes on behind the Iron Curtain for all his professional life.

The youngest ever to hold the office of CIA director, Mr Gates had been deputy director of the CIA a mere eight months when Mr William Casey, the director, was taken ill. Coming from the intelligence community, little is publicly known outside the Langley establishment about him.

But in testimony before the congressional committees investigating the Iran arms affair — in which the CIA appears to have played a vital role — senators have gained the impression that, though fiercely loyal to Mr Casey, Mr Gates will bring a very different approach to his job: more detached, less political, less impetuous, with greater emphasis on analysis and less on covert action.

To many this is a welcome change. Mr Casey, a long-time friend of President Reagan, used his close links to the White House to beef up the CIA budget, to restore morale and prestige to the agency, and to give it more say in the formulation of US policy abroad. But many say this was at the cost of deepening

CIA involvement in the such dubious activities as the mining of Nicaraguan harbours, the involvement with the Contras, and covert operations such as the Iran affair.

Congressmen have called Mr Casey's testimony before his illness "less than frank". Democrats and Republican moderates have also been suspicious of his hardline anti-Soviet views. Though effective in cracking down on Soviet spying within the US, Mr Casey has been held responsible for the blunder in the handling of the defector KGB agent, Mr Vitaly Yurchenko, and the wholesale expulsion of Soviet diplomats.

● **Repairing relations with Congress may take some time** ●

and UN officials, which led to a frantic round of tit-for-tat reprisals.

Congress also saw Mr Casey as throwing the full weight of the CIA behind the attempt by the hardliners in the Administration to block any arms control agreement.

By contrast, Senator David Boren, chairman of the Senate intelligence committee, said Mr Gates had been "very candid and forthcoming" in his testimony on the Iran-Contra affair.

The CIA can only be pleased with the choice of a professional at the helm instead of another outside politician. The White House was known to be canvassing such figures as former Republican Senator Howard Baker and John Tower.

But as one Administration official admitted, the choice of Mr Gates was a "recognition that what the CIA needs now is professional leadership". Mr Gates is not especially close to President Reagan. But instead, he has the experience of having worked in the

National Security Council for six years, from 1974 to 1980, under three presidents, Republican and Democrat.

Many see a revamped NSC under Mr Frank Carlucci, the new NSC Adviser, as a vital ingredient in the Administration's effort to give greater coherence to its foreign policy. A Carlucci-Gates tandem would clearly strengthen this effort. Indeed Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's National Security Adviser, this week called Mr Gates a man "of good judgment, well-versed in Soviet affairs".

Within the CIA, which he first joined in 1966, Mr Gates oversaw an overhaul of the agency's analytical division. For two years after returning to Langley from the NSC in 1980 he served as Mr Casey's executive secretary, and then for the next four years he headed the directorate of intelligence.

Mr Gates has never worked as a "spy" in the more colourful cloak-and-dagger CIA operations. His attitude to these is cautious. In congressional testimony he called such activity "an appropriate instrument of foreign policy, as long as it is taken within a broader context".

Unlike Mr Casey, who himself worked as an operative in the Second World War with the CIA's predecessor, the Office of Strategic Studies, Mr Gates has spent his CIA life behind a desk.

Mr Gates's immediate concern will be to clear up the Iran mess. Already he has moved to distance himself from the private mercenaries and the diversion of Iran arms funds to the Contras. But repairing relations with Congress may take some time. There is a natural suspicion on Capitol Hill of the CIA and Mr Casey's tenure soured relations. But few doubt that Mr Gates has the energy and ambition to overcome it.

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Grenada boom is short-lived as US slashes aid package

From Martha Honey, St George's, Grenada

The huge American aid programme to Grenada, begun after the 1983 US invasion, is expected to be cut by about two-thirds this year, while foreign investment has fallen short of expectations.

Three years after the invasion which toppled the leftist government and two years after elections restored a conservative parliamentary rule, businessmen predict the economic boom, which included a 4.5 per cent growth rate and almost no inflation, may be waning and 1987 will be a "mediocre" year.

"There had been a feeling that we would see industry take over as aid fell off, but this has not taken place," said Mr Alister Hughes, editor of a weekly Grenada newsletter.

As one diplomat put it, hopes that "once the US was a partner this would become

be substantial, but he said he could not specify the exact amount.

Government officials have warned that Grenadians should not take foreign aid for granted. "People have come to our aid because we suffered certain traumas, now we have to pull up our socks," said the Minister of Health and Housing, Mr Danny Williams.

The US spent \$19 million to complete the controversial airport begun with Cuban assistance during the revolutionary government of the former Prime Minister, Mr Maurice Bishop. US assistance has also gone into road, bridge and jetty improvements, electrical power, water and telephones.

Aid from other countries is minimal - Britain, for instance, has granted an interest-free loan of £5 million spread over five years.

Experts say the impact of the US cuts is difficult to predict. But they agree that, despite the increased world price of Grenada's main export, nutmeg, a moderate growth in tourism and other industries, and fiscal reforms, the shortfall "is going to be hard to make up."

An unpopular austerity programme based on a British-financed study of the Civil Service, is scheduled to eliminate up to 3,000 government jobs.

Mr Blaize also faces several difficult political and social issues. A rise in crime and the much-publicized trial of 19 people for the October 1983 murder of Mr Bishop and 10 others contributed to tourist cancellations. Fourteen defendants were sentenced to death, a decision which appears popular among Grenadians.

The appeal process is likely to take most of this year and could include an appeal to the Privy Council. Mr Blaize said he has not made up his mind on the issue of capital punishment.

The Prime Minister, who is nearing 70 and in poor health, also faces opposition from younger ministers who charge him with being autocratic in his decision-making.



Mr Blaize: facing difficult political and social issues.

another Singapore" have faded, with only a handful of foreign companies opening light manufacturing plants.

Over the last three years, American aid to this Caribbean island of only 93,000 has totalled \$83 million (£54 million) or almost \$900 per person, the highest per capita US aid to any country except Israel.

But, according to a US economic official, the level of disbursement this year is likely to drop to "about \$10 million", down from more than \$30 million in 1986.

Mr Herbert Blaize, the Grenadian Prime Minister, who also serves as Finance Minister, said the aid cut will

£90m refit will give QE2 new engine room



Captain David Carr, Staff Captain of the Queen Elizabeth 2, stands among some of the 3,500 tons of metal removed from the liner's engine room during a refit in Bremerhaven. The six-month refit, which will cost £90 million, involves replacement of the ship's boilers and steam turbines with a diesel electric propulsion system. The QE2 is due to return to the Southampton-New York transatlantic service at the end of April. Photograph by Glyn Gennin.

Earthquake relief in Salvador grinds to a halt

From Alan Tomlinson, San Salvador

Homeless earthquake victims stand around the lifeless bulldozer that represents their only hope of moving to high ground before the rains come in April or May.

Before it stopped working, the machine was terracing the hillside where 138 shanties had perched precariously until the earthquake on October 10 tipped them into a ravine.

These refugees from the civil war had cladded together to repair the machine five times, but now it needs a part worth more money than most of them have earned in four years.

Reconstruction of their lives has ground to a halt, as it has for most of the 200,000 Salvadorans who were made homeless by the earthquake, which killed 1,500 and caused \$2 billion (£1.3 billion) of damage.

The relief effort, described

as "exemplary" by aid workers in the first weeks after the disaster, has become bogged down by political infighting over who will get the credit for rebuilding the city.

A deepening political crisis is distracting the Government

● Piles of uncleared debris heaped all round the city ●

as enemies on the right and the left seek to destroy President Duarte rather than help him tackle the emergency.

When the weather breaks, torrential rains will wash away thousands of tents and cardboard shacks. The flood of protest that will almost certainly follow could sweep away the last props of popular support for Señor Duarte's Government.

"Duarte is there because of us, but we have seen nothing of

his promises," Señor Toribio Andrade, aged 30, said. The community has received few of the wooden poles and corrugated tin sheets with which most Salvadorans build their homes.

Nor have the men in this shantown with 80 per cent unemployed been given any of the rubble-clearing work financed by United States aid money.

"We are from the countryside. We know how to work," complained José Angel Argente, a father of five children. "We have gone to the government centres to ask for work, but they always tell us to come back tomorrow. We don't have the bus fare to keep going back."

Washington, whose support for President Duarte is a cornerstone of its Central American strategy, provided him with \$52.5 million (£34.5 million) in immediate disaster assistance. Three months later, as Washington prepares

to make another \$100 million available, only a quarter of the first instalment has been spent.

In what a senior US official described as "a master stroke", President Duarte placed the initial relief effort in the hands of his arch-enemies in the right-wing private business sector.

Working together for the first time, the fragile alliance dealt swiftly with the distribu-

● Political infighting over who will get aid credit ●

tion of early relief but it was short-lived.

"The Government became very concerned that it was not receiving enough credit," the American official said. The relief commission was disbanded after three weeks.

Africa still needs food despite good crops

From A Correspondent, Nairobi

In spite of good rains which brought bumper harvests to most African countries in 1986, five states will still need emergency food aid during the coming year, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

In its latest report on the food supply situation and crop prospects in sub-Saharan Africa, issued here yesterday, the FAO states that Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Ethiopia and Mozambique will need a total of 800,000 tonnes of emergency food imports, with Ethiopia and Mozambique needing help most urgently. The number of urban and rural Mozambicans now requiring relief food has risen to 5.6 million.

The report says: "The food supply position in Mozambique continues to deteriorate and is causing serious concern. The population affected by civil strife has increased and serious difficulties are being encountered with the delivery of relief supplies to the needy in rural areas."

Looking at the continent generally, the FAO reports that food supply has improved for the second successive year, with above-average harvests in some countries.

Last year's total production of cereals in the 45 countries of sub-Saharan Africa (excluding South Africa and Namibia) is estimated provisionally by the FAO to be a record 55.7 million tonnes. Even the cereal crop in the Sahel states, at 7.7 million tonnes, was a record.

One serious problem arising from the bumper harvests has been the vast surpluses in some countries that are causing acute storage problems, especially when the next crop is harvested. To alleviate this, the FAO has been arranging what it calls "triangular transactions," or swap arrangements, with donor countries purchasing surplus food from one African state and shipping it to another in dire need of food.

Britain, for instance, is purchasing grain from Kenya and Zimbabwe for the people of Ethiopia and Mozambique.

Although the FAO notes a general improvement in the food situation in Africa, its latest report sounds a grim warning about locusts.

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Leaked paper on power for blacks puts Botha on spot

From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg

President Botha of South Africa has been challenged to repudiate a confidential document of the Afrikaner Broederbond which argues that whites could be adequately protected under a government which had a majority of black members.

The document was made public by Mr Louis Stofberg, the only MP of the extreme right-wing Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP) in Parliament, who suggested it reflected the Government's real intentions, as opposed to its more rigid public position.

The purpose of releasing the document was clearly to embarrass the Government in the run-up to the May 6 election by forcing Mr Botha and his colleagues to clarify their position on future black political rights.

Like most other members of the Cabinet, Mr Botha is a member of the Broederbond, the semi-secret society of the Afrikaner elite, with an estimated 12,000 members in all walks of life, which was founded in 1918 to promote Afrikaner interests.

Labelled "strictly confidential" and entitled "Working document — basic constitutional conditions for the survival of the Afrikaner", the paper was circulated to all Broederbond members last year.

It was given to the HNP by a disgruntled conservative member of the Broederbond, whose membership, like that of other Afrikaner institutions, is split between people who support Pretoria's cautious relaxation of racial segregation and diehard defenders of apartheid.

The document says a constitutional system can be devised in which "the majority of government members can indeed be black, but the system and procedure must work so that all groups can effectively participate and not be dominated by one group".

It says that in such a system "the head of state and/or government need not necessarily be white", provided the powers of the office could not be used to enforce group domination — that is, undiluted black majority rule without safeguards for whites.

Although this hardly sounds revolutionary stuff, it is of interest because Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, the Foreign Minister, was publicly chastised and

forced to write a letter of apology by President Botha a year ago for saying exactly the same thing.

The Broederbond document also seems to suggest, if in convoluted language, that organizations which are now outlawed, like the African National Congress (ANC), would have to be involved in negotiations on any new constitution.

President Botha told the South African Parliament yesterday that the state of emergency restrictions on the news media were not intended to hamper "legitimate political expression" during the campaign for the white general election on May 6 (Michael Hornsby writes from Johannesburg).

It is known that the chairman of the Broederbond, Professor J.P. de Lange, met senior members of the ANC informally in the United States last year.

Little came of the meeting, but it is interesting that it took place at all at a time when the ANC was being publicly denounced by Pretoria as a communist and terrorist organization with which no form of dialogue could be conceived.

Support for the Broederbond's view of the ANC came yesterday indirectly from Mr Kurt von Schröder, South Africa's former ambassador to the United Nations, who has returned home to take up a post as director-general of the South Africa Foundation, an independent think tank funded by big business.

He said: "I can't see us arriving at a political dispensation acceptable to all in South Africa unless we are prepared to negotiate with all sections, including political leaders in prison and banned organizations."

He said he had earlier supported the establishment of the tricameral Parliament for whites, Indians and mixed-race Coloureds, but now believed it had been misconceived because it further antagonized blacks by excluding them.

Meanwhile, two senior Cabinet members, Mr Chris Heunis, the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, and Mr Stoffel Botha, the Minister of Home Affairs, this week rejected proposals for a new multiracial provincial government in Natal.

Washington talks with ANC will continue

From Jan Raath, Harare

Mr Chester Crocker, the US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, has confirmed that discussions between the Reagan Administration and the African National Congress (ANC) will continue.

Mr Crocker said in a telephone interview from Washington on Tuesday night that he was strongly against violence in South Africa and stressed that he believed negotiation to be the only possible means to resolve the South African crisis.

America's chief envoy to southern Africa, Mr Crocker said that last week's talks between Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and Mr Oliver Tambo, the ANC president, "will be a continuous dialogue".

"We intend to continue it. We believe the ANC has the same view," he said, adding that the talks would be part of "aggressive contacts right across the spectrum".

The United States "deplores in the strongest terms the use of terrorist violence against soft targets and innocent civilians". He said ANC statements dissociating themselves from such violence had been noted.

"There have been contradictory statements, saying for instance that the ANC could not condemn such acts as necklacing," he said, referring to the practice of setting fire to suspected police collaborators with petrol-filled tyres.

Border control threat to Harare's rail link

From Our Correspondent, Harare

Zimbabwe is facing the possible closure of one of its two railway links through South Africa as a consequence of border restrictions to be imposed soon by the Bophuthatswana "homeland".

The new squeeze has serious implications for the nine countries of the Southern African Development Conference, which route 60 per cent of their trade through South Africa.

An official of the South African trade mission in Harare yesterday confirmed reports that from Monday next week the unrecognized government of Bophuthatswana would be demanding visas from all Zimbabweans, obtainable 30 days in advance.

Zimbabwe's national railways have, since the turn of the century, administered the railway line that runs from north-west Zimbabwe southwards through Botswana and across the border post of Ramatlabana, where Bophuthatswana's territory begins.

Zimbabwean crews take their trains to the historic Boer War town of Mafeking, just inside the homeland, where locomotives are uncoupled for return to Zimbabwe. The wagons are then drawn by South African locomotives.

"If no arrangement is come to and Bophuthatswana holds out on its demands, it means that the trains will stop," a senior shipping company official said.



An exhibitor at the International Toy Fair in Nuremberg, West Germany, displaying a model train engine with a difference. The locomotive has a video lens mounted on its front which gives its operator an image over a monitor.

French teachers strike over reform

From Diana Geddes
Paris

Tens of thousands of primary school teachers took part in demonstrations and strikes throughout France yesterday against the Government's decision to give greater powers to head teachers in the running of their schools.

The unions complain that the decree, signed by M Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, on Monday, setting out the changes in primary heads' status and functions, will mean less say for teachers in the running of their schools and could also undermine the power of the teachers' unions.

At present, the head of a primary school is simply a teacher like any other, only with a few extra administrative responsibilities. Decisions are taken collectively by all the teachers in the

school. Under the new arrangements, ordinary teachers will have a merely consultative role.

The Government has already watered down its original proposals in response to union objections. The head teacher will no longer have the right to assess his or her colleagues, for example, nor will he have the obligation to ensure "the continuity of the school service", which the unions saw as a direct threat to their right to strike.

On the other hand, he will still be required to "ensure access" to school buildings during normal school hours. He will also be made responsible for teacher recruitment to his school; for fixing the school time-table; for seeing that instructions in official circulars are properly carried out; and for ensuring regular

attendance by pupils, intervening where necessary with the families concerned.

Compulsory training programmes are to be set up to prepare heads for their new duties for which they will receive up to £60 a month in recompense. More than £16 million has been earmarked for the programmes.

The largest parents' association has come out against the proposed changes saying that it can find "no justification for such an anti-union strategy". However, M René Monory, the Education Minister, says that a poll carried out by the Government showed 70 per cent of the public in favour of giving greater powers to primary heads.

M Monory insisted yesterday that there was no question of a repetition of events last December when

the Government was forced to withdraw its university reform Bill after violent protests.

The Government is also facing serious difficulties with teachers and some four million other workers in the public sector over pay. Most of the unions concerned have indicated that the latest offer of an increase of 1.7 per cent on basic rates this year is inadequate, particularly in view of its refusal to include a "safeguard clause" in the deal guaranteeing a bigger increase should inflation go up by more than the forecast rate of 1.7 per cent.

Less than a week after M Chirac announced that an "improved social dialogue" was one of the three main priorities of the Government this year, the climate on the industrial relations front looks decidedly stormy.



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Minister fails to end student unrest

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

The prospects of defusing Spain's explosive student crisis seemed slim as the Education Minister, Señor José María Maravall, met student leaders here yesterday, less than 24 hours after a violent demonstration outside Parliament at the time when the minister was explaining the student problem to MPs.

The meeting, the third since students began taking to the streets last month, started just three hours before a scheduled joint demonstration by students and jobless farm labourers here.

Next Wednesday, the Student Union is planning a march on Madrid from all over the country; there will also be a student strike which is to last all next week.

The last of the 50 people hurt in Tuesday's riots here were released from hospital yesterday. Several rioters remained in custody.

Meanwhile, police were on alert to assure law and order and prevent any further outbreaks of violence.

Señor Maravall said in Parliament on Tuesday that many of the students' demands were

unreasonable and too expensive to consider.

The Minister said that one of those demands was for the state to pay the minimum wage to all students aged 16 and over.

The student representatives argued, the Minister said, that the cost of such a measure could be met by doing away with the Defence Ministry and the armed forces.

He said that even if two defence ministries could be abolished, there would still not be enough money for everything the students wanted.



Señor Maravall: the student demands are unreasonable.

EEC agricultural budget

Farmers face prospect of cut in cereal prices

From Richard Owen, Brussels

On the eve of what are expected to be tough talks in London between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and M Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, the Commission yesterday discussed proposals for cuts in cereal prices as well as other measures for reforming the much criticized common agricultural policy (CAP).

Reaction to the Commission's 1987 farm price proposals, which are a further blow to the once powerful farm lobby, will be seen as a test of the real strength of EEC member governments' commitment to continued reform of CAP.

This figures prominently in M Delors's package of proposals for restructuring the EEC budget in a bid to avert annual financial crises and resolve the growing north-south divide in the Community. The 1987 budget has still not been settled because of differences over spending priorities between the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers.

Yesterday the Commission took the first step in fixing annual EEC farm prices. The Commission's proposals will be discussed by farm ministers in Brussels on Monday.

CAP reform, long delayed

because of national ministers' fears of political backlash from farmers, was finally put firmly on the agenda at the end of the British presidency of the EEC in December, when farm ministers meeting under the chairmanship of Mr Michael Jopling, the Minister of Agriculture, agreed cuts in dairy and beef production.

The December meeting did not, however, tackle the 16 million tonnes cereals mountain. EEC officials said the Commission was considering a freeze on dairy and beef prices for 1987, and was determined to cut the cereals surplus as well.

Officials said a special council of budget ministers was under consideration for the end of next week to discuss the EEC budget crisis.

LONDON: Mrs Thatcher will today strongly resist any demand from M Delors for an additional contribution to Community finances (Andrew McEwen writes).

The Prime Minister will call for economies, starting with further reform of the CAP. Cuts in milk and beef production agreed in December achieved a small cost reduction, but this has already been largely swallowed up by the falling dollar.

Horror as 8 die in school bus

Cairo (AP) — A bus carrying 67 high school students on an outing plunged 65 ft over a cliff yesterday, killing eight students and seriously injuring more than 20.

The bus was returning to Cairo, about 1,220 miles north of Sydney on Australia's north-east coast, when it left the road and fell into a ravine.

"It was a scene of absolute horror," said Mrs Roz Casson, a local resident who was one of the first to reach the scene. "The bus was smashed to smithereens. Bodies were hanging from the windows and others were trapped beneath the wreckage."

Refugees' fate

The British Refugee Council is to make urgent representations to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees over the fate of Ethiopians in Djibouti after receiving a report from Western aid workers at refugee camps.

Intruder shot

Port of Spain (Reuters) — An unidentified man who entered the grounds of the unoccupied residence of Trinidad's Prime Minister with a sword and attacked gardeners was shot and killed by a soldier.

Talks go slow

Delhi — Talks between Indian and Pakistani negotiators continued yesterday for a fifth consecutive day as an agreement on resolving tensions along their border remained elusive.

Capital move

Abuja, Nigeria (Reuters) — After years of delays, political argument and an investment running into several billion pounds, Nigeria has begun to move the federal capital from Lagos to Abuja, 500 miles to the north.

Olympic coins

Seoul (AP) — The first public sale of coins commemorating the 1988 Seoul Olympics will begin on February 23, with nearly 1.39 million available for overseas markets.

Oil in river

Vienna (Reuters) — Some four tonnes of heating oil have escaped into the River Ploucnice in northern Czechoslovakia, the third such incident in recent months, Prague Radio reported.

Golden bubbly

Providence (AP) — A bottle of rare French champagne valued at \$65,000 and studded with diamonds and 14-carat gold has been stolen from the Omni-Biltmore hotel lobby.

Overwhelming vote for charter gives Aquino basis for swift reforms

The Philippines Cabinet yesterday addressed a new pressing need for land reform, economic recovery and a settlement of various insurgencies.

The Government, heartened by an 81 per cent approval of the new constitution from the people, has also decided to try to resolve the problem of military dissent by asking personnel to swear an oath of allegiance to the new charter. Those who do not do so will be asked to resign from the forces.

Local newspapers have been making great play of the relatively high proportion of military personnel who voted to reject the new constitution. Though the overall majority throughout the armed forces was in favour, a significant minority voted against it. Only in the Air Force, which provided the greatest number of dissidents in the most recent military uprising, was there a majority against the charter.

The Defence Minister, Mr Rafael Ilo, told the Cabinet that the dissidents were a tiny group and the great majority of the forces would swear allegiance.

The new Cabinet decision is in line with a policy which one member says decrees that the

Government should push ahead with tough measures against dissidents and face the consequences or lie low and lose credibility and potency.

During the years of President Ferdinand Marcos, the composition of the military was weighted heavily in favour of people from his own area, Ilocos in northern Luzon, and many of them not only still feel loyalty to him or that part of the country, but feel isolated and discriminated against by the new Government.

Apart from loyalties, Mr Ilo said military training did not prepare men for the more sophisticated means of tackling insurgencies, such as peace negotiations and a ceasefire.

By last night, what the Government calls the most honest electoral exercise in Philippine history showed an unofficial tally of 81.04 per cent in favour of the new charter and 18.96 per cent against. This shows, said the government spokesman, that the overwhelming majority of Filipinos belong to the centre and reject both the communist left and the right.

The huge show of support for the Government has con-

vinced many Cabinet members that President Aquino, who broadcast to the nation last night, has the power to move decisively on several tough issues before the convening of the first Congress, after elections in May, which might hamper moves on land reform and the insurgencies by Muslims and communists.

Mrs Aquino was also urged to put a land reform programme into action before the private interests of the members of the new Congress complicate matters. It is likely to cost more than \$1 billion (£653 million) and most of that money will have to come from abroad. But already \$500 million will be made available by the Paris Club of donor countries.

The Cabinet was told that 90 per cent of the programme for rehabilitating communist returnees is now in place. But with a ceasefire with the New People's Army (NPA) due to expire on Sunday, Mrs Aquino was under pressure from the right in her Cabinet to come out fighting.

In some areas of the country, the NPA fighters have been back in the hills for two weeks, but the President and a significant portion of public opinion want the ceasefire to continue.



A jubilant President Aquino receiving the congratulations of supporters in Manila after her Cabinet meeting yesterday.

Ideological backlash in China

Anti-liberal takes over as party's propaganda chief

From Robert Gries, Peking

The new chief of the Chinese Communist Party's propaganda department was described by informed sources here yesterday as a "hardliner" who last month helped to promote the country's current anti-Western and anti-liberal campaign.

The appointment of Mr Wang Renzhi, the former deputy editor of the party's theoretical journal, *Red Flag*, and a Central Committee member, as the new propaganda chief was announced yesterday by the Chinese Foreign Ministry.

His spokesman said that the former propaganda chief, Mr Zhu Houze, aged 55, had been transferred to the post of deputy director of the Rural Budget Research Centre, which is overseen by the State Council.

Chinese and Western sources confirmed this week that Mr Zhu was dismissed from his job early last month as part of the political shift in the party hierarchy that led to the forced resignation of Mr Hu Yaobang, the party's General Secretary.

Mr Zhu was regarded as a liberal follower of Mr Hu, who had advocated a general opening of Chinese society to foreign, particularly Western, influences. That policy appears to have been unpopular with party conservatives and

possibly even with China's senior leader, Mr Deng Xiaoping, who initiated the reform policy in the late 1970s.

Mr Zhu was appointed propaganda chief in 1985, replacing Mr Deng Liqun, the 82-year-old ideological conservative whose views have made a strong comeback within the party in the wake of last December's widespread student demonstrations.

As propaganda chief, Mr Deng is said to have been

It has been confirmed that Mr Wang Yeh, aged 31, a graduate of the University of Arizona, was arrested on January 11 in Shanghai on counter-revolution charges (AP reports from Peking).

responsible for the 1983 "anti-spiritual pollution campaign" that generally attacked all foreign influences in China.

Mr Wang, his latest successor, reportedly said last month that suppression of the 1983 campaign by party moderates necessitated the current "anti-bourgeois liberalization campaign."

Last week and earlier this week, diplomatic sources here had said that relatively liberal party members appeared to be back in control of the party's propaganda apparatus. But yesterday, one diplomat said: "It looks like the conser-

vatives have their men in place, and are lying low for the moment."

● **Dangers of liberalism:** A leading article in yesterday's *Peking Daily* served a warning that if American-style democracy were adopted in China, it would bring with it Aids, homosexuality, armed robbery and "other disgusting things".

The article, which took up a good part of the front and back pages, appeared to be the most inflammatory reaction yet to the recent student demonstrations in 12 cities, which called for greater Western-style freedom and democracy.

In the Shanghai demonstration in late December, for example, posters depicting the Statue of Liberty and quotations from the US Constitution and the signatories of the Declaration of Independence were prominently displayed.

In the weeks since the demonstrations, the US and its way of life have been heavily criticized by the Chinese media. Reporting on the US is now generally more hostile.

The *Peking Daily* said: "If we were to import Western ideology into China, in essence that would mean importing the hedonism of the bourgeois class: seeking pleasure and the worship of money."

The new constitution

Objective seen as just and humane society

The new constitution aims to build not only a government, but a just and humane society. The preamble aims "to secure to ourselves and our posterity the blessings of independence and democracy under the rule of law and a regime of truth, justice, freedom, love, equality and peace".

Highlights of the constitution:

● The use of torture is prohibited ●

● The Philippines is not merely declared to be a republican state, it is now referred to as a democratic state.

● It emphatically states that the civilian authority is, at all times, supreme over the military, which is the "protector of the people and the state".

● Consistent with the national interest, "the Philippines adopts and pursues a policy of freedom from nuclear weapons in its territory".

● The state is mandated to promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation that free the people from poverty.

● The state guarantees full respect of human rights.

● The sanctity of the family is recognized by the state, which is mandated to protect and strengthen the family as a

basic autonomous social institution.

● The state ensures equality of men and women, and also protects the right to health of the people.

● The state shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology, in accordance with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

● The state shall prohibit political dynasties as defined by law.

● The Bill of Rights prohibits the use of torture, force, violence, threat or intimidation and the use of secret detention places, solitary, incommunicado, and other forms of detention.

● It sets forth a bicameral legislature with an Upper House of 24 senators and a House of Representatives of 250.

● All members of Congress shall make a full disclosure of their wealth on assumption of office.

● Land free of nuclear weapons ●

● The officers and men of the regular armed forces shall be recruited proportionately from all provinces and cities, as far as is practical.

● The six-year term of the President and Vice-President extend to June 30 1992.

Greek climbdown over US bases

From Mario Modiano, Athens

In one of his most spectacular recent policy U-turns, Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, has told Parliament that he is willing to negotiate a new bases agreement with the Americans, if the price is right.

But what is Mr Papandreu's price likely to be? His Socialist Government came to power in 1981 with fanciful promises of extricating Greece from the tentacles of foreign dependence — such

Spanish negotiators rejected an American proposal as "insufficient", as the fourth round of talks on the reduction of the US military presence in Spain drew to a close yesterday (Harry Debelius writes from Madrid).

Spanish sources reiterated that the Madrid Government will refuse to renew the US bases agreement when it runs out next year, unless there is a substantial reduction.

as the European Community, Nato and the American bases.

Five years later, with the Greek economy amid a prolonged slump and the assumed military threat of Turkey still looming, his promises of unfettered national independence sound a little hollow.

Already the Socialists have drastically changed their attitude to the European Community which, by pumping more than £4 billion into Greece's insatiably consumerist economy, bolstered government popularity at grass roots.

At a weekend financial forum in Davos, Switzerland, Mr Papandreu, eager to attract foreign investors, swallowed all his earlier invective against multinationals and vowed that no "obsolete ideologies" would be allowed to interfere with their investment plans in Greece.

During a recent defence

debate, Mr Papandreu admitted in Parliament that he was now determined to keep Greece within Nato, arguing that "otherwise war with Turkey might become inevitable".

It was an odd argument from a man who, in the same speech, insisted that Nato offered Greece no protection from Turkish attack.

It was in this debate that he gave his commitment on the American bases, albeit in a tortuously discreet manner. He said: "Why, you may ask, since we want these bases to go, are we ready to open a dialogue with the United States for a new agreement?"

He answered his question with another: "Are there any returns that the Greek people might accept in exchange for a US military presence?"

His reference to the Greek people suggests to Western analysts here that Mr Papandreu may want to unload his responsibility for allowing the US bases to remain beyond the 1990 deadline on to the Greek electorate, by means of a referendum.

He gave no hint of what price he thought the Greeks might find adequate.

Today the bases bring in some \$300-\$500 million a year in military credits, which can, however, be used only to buy American weapons. Mr Papandreu is known to want more cash, and also greater flexibility on how and where to spend it.

The price he would find irresistible would be an American guarantee of the inviolability of the Greek-Turkish frontiers, strong enough to dispel Greek fears of potential Turkish attack.

Mr Papandreu expects the Americans to come forward with a formal request for negotiations on a new bases agreement in the spring. The current agreement expires at the end of 1988.

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SPECTRUM

A thinker, not a soft touch

THE TIMES PROFILE

MR JUSTICE LEONARD

A poll taken among British women yesterday might have shown a narrow majority voting in favour of castration for convicted rapists. There might also have been a sizeable minority in favour of a sanction only marginally less pleasant being imposed on Sir John Leonard, the High Court judge who imposed this week's controversial sentences in the Ealing rape case.

Seldom nowadays does a sentence for this most emotion-laden of crimes meet with the public's instinctive need for revenge: rape is seen as a plague upon our times because of its essential bestiality and now because of the evident increase in both its frequency and the scale of the attendant violence. The fear of women and the anger of their men powerfully charge the atmosphere.

Even so it is seldom that such anger has been directed at a sentencing judge as beats now about the wigged head of Sir John Leonard, over the way he chose to deal with the men guilty of the hideous assault on the young woman at the west London vicarage which they had broken in to rob.

It was not as if Sir John had set them free. One man got five years for the horrendous sexual assault, another three years. Sir John's manifest offence was to then award harsher punishment (five years each) to the same two men for the act of burglary and a swingeing 14 years for the man who organized the raid but who did not touch the girl. The judge thus demonstrated, in the eyes of his critics, an 18th Century hang-em-for-a-sheep attitude to property, equating its protection as a matter rather more vital than the preservation of life, limb or womanly honour. If that is a harsh judgement on a judge, then it was one firmly offered by the vicar and the girl who had been the victims.

It was therefore a relief to find within Sir John's profession yesterday at least one legal mind able to follow his reasoning. Not the QC who claimed "but he has done this before: look at his record", referring to the case in which Sir John had judged probation punishment enough for an ex-policeman convicted of robbery whilst armed with a shotgun. But rather that eminent lawyer who insisted: "If anyone thinks that John Leonard, one of the great criminal specialists of his generation, has either gone eccentric, soft on crime, or lost his marbles, they simply don't know the man. He would have sat and

thought this through, and I suspect I know precisely why he fixed on these sentences."

Which was? "I think Mr Justice Leonard made up his mind that 10 years inside was the right term. But he would have been afraid that a straight 10-year sentence for rape might — just might — have been taken to the Court of Appeal as too severe. So why take the chance that the Appeal Court might have an off day? Pronounced this way, a very reasonable five years for the burglary and a sentence for rape that no defence dare challenge nicely wrapped these men with what the judge thought they deserved."

Mr Justice Leonard, the lawyer added, is "a most careful craftsman. He knew precisely what he was about. But perhaps his weakness was in not anticipating what certain tabloid newspapers and certain bandwagon MPs would make of his actions."

What puzzles some of Mr Justice Leonard's more worldly-wise contemporaries is why he did not recognize the certain resonances bound to attend a trial involving a vicarage and a virgin, and wrap up his package of sentences in a more popularly acceptable parcel: it could have been easily done. "Had John given the chap 10 years for what he did to that poor girl, and added another five to run concurrently for the burglary, I think all the baying for blood would have died away", said a QC. "The effect on the amount of time the man served would have been negligible, but rape would have been seen to be rather more heinous than dashing off with the silver."

Then why...? "I don't think his mind runs that way. He is basically a nice chap who thinks the best of people wherever possible, and the notion of doing something that smacked of good public relations would just not occur. He would have reasoned his way to these sentences, and for him that would have been enough. Other men might have thundered on how they had arranged things so that prisoner wouldn't see daylight for years. John Leonard is not given to explaining. He is one of today's generation of judges... a bit colourless, I fear."

An "engaging and approachable man: the first chap anyone needing a word about criminal law would go to" was one description of Sir John, a man who, blessed with both wife and daughter (the latter a housewife, aged 34), can be presumed to share



The price of rape: Mr Justice Leonard's verdict was carefully weighed

the fears of all husbands and fathers (his son, aged 30, is a barrister in the chambers that his father left when he became a judge).

"A man who came from the world of crime and instantly showed an astonishing grasp of complex civil law," was another perception of the 60-year-old former Guardsman, now known as a "clubbable man, fond of his music, books and the odd night out with City livery companies".

Most QCs rate him on their personal scale of apprehensions as "severe to moderately scary". By that, said one, "one means that you need to go before him having done the work. He can chill you. But I wouldn't call him frightening. Not unless, that is, you are in the dock. Then I think he would give you the shivers. Oh yes, he is severe on criminals. No doubt about that. Which is why all this fuss after one of his cases is so very odd. But then he jumped up a bit spectacularly because of his brilliant mind, not because he was going to be good with the media."

That "spectacular jump", by legal standards, came in a three-minute ceremony at the Central Criminal Court in 1981, when the Lord Chief Justice came down the Strand from the High Court with a posse of other legal big-wigs to administer the oath which translated Judge Leonard into Mr Justice Leonard. Us-

ally the ceremony takes place at the High Court, but this historic break with tradition was made as a courteous recognition of the rarity of the promotion from Common Sergeant to full-blown High Court Justice.

The idea that John Leonard was becoming "noticed" had been about in the lums and antechambers for some time. Before his appointment as Common Sergeant, which is the Old Bailey's No 2 judge, he had been marked down as a shrewd and incisive prosecutor, notably in the Kray twins case, and the trial of a mass poisoner, Graham Young.

In 1977, the then John Leonard, QC, was handpicked to join a 13-strong committee established by the Home Secretary to review the obscenity laws. Pornography was very much a "hot" social issue of the time. One of the other 12 good and great who sat beside him frequently for the two years of discussions, will say: "Sir John? Oh, he was always the tough one. At first my heart sank a bit when he started to speak. Here, I decided, was a really sticky reactionary."

"I was wrong. He was a very human chap, but not one to be swept along by emotional statements and submissions. For example we obviously had Mary Whitehouse along to tell us that

BIOGRAPHY

1922: Born April 28, Poole, Dorset. Educated Dean Close school, Cheltenham, Brasenose College, Oxford.
1944-47: Coldstream Guards.
1948: Married Doreen Parker (now a JP). One son, one daughter.
1951: Called to the Bar.
1977-79: Committee to review laws on obscenity, indecency and censorship.
1981: Appointed to High Court; knighted.

Battle of the airwaves

This month the Home Office is expected to pave the way for scores of community radio stations. Meanwhile another government department is closing down the pirates

In a back room of his television repair shop in Harlesden, north London, Stanley Crosdale puts another record on the turntable, and announces through a microphone: "You're listening to JBC — the station with the juice."

JBC is one of scores of pirate radio stations operating in London, and one of at least three on the air in Harlesden.

The station, which uses an otherwise unoccupied VHF frequency, has been raided 12 times in as many months by inspectors from the Department of Trade and Industry who impound everything in sight — microphones, record players, cassette tape machines and the transmitter itself, which is housed in a cardboard box.

But within days, Crosdale and his friends have managed to get back on the air, despite their appearances before local magistrates and fines of between £400 and £600 for violating the Wireless Telegraphy Act.

Last year was a good one for the DTI inspectors with 218 raids on stations, many repeatedly. John Butcher, the minister responsible for the department's Radio Investigation Service, told Parliament that 39 of the raids were in London, 15 on Merseyside, and the remainder scattered about the country.

But Butcher's inspectors are failing to curb the radio craze. According to independent monitors, there are 65 pirate radio stations operating in London alone.

Some of them can be heard for only a few thousand feet from their transmitters. Others cover areas of several square miles. All of them seem determined to stay on.

'Community radio is here to stay, legalized or not'

the air, no matter how many times they are raided.

In London, the anarchy has produced a colourful mixture of stations, from KISS-FM, modelled on an American pop station, to LGP, a station broadcasting to Greek Cypriots in north London. Others are broadcasting in Urdu, Hindi and Bengali.

While the Department of Trade and Industry is busy trying to shut down stations like JBC, the Home Office is trying to set them up. At the end of this month Douglas Hard, the Home Secretary, is expected to publish a Green Paper calling for the creation of scores of even hundreds of

new, low-powered stations. By carefully controlling the frequencies and power of new stations, it is hoped that the current interference with emergency radio services will be avoided.

A year ago, a similar proposal shuddered to a halt when some ministers claimed that community stations could be taken over by troublemakers and political extremists.

Hard hopes he has it right this time. According to sources, he will propose that the community stations have a duty to present news impartially and operate according to a code of practice, enforced by a statutory authority.

But even if Mr Hard's new effort gets no further than his last one, community radio, legal or not, is probably here to stay. The entrepreneurs behind the stations say they would prefer to be licensed and able to operate legally. But until licences become



Airwave squatter: Stanley Crosdale, a pirate station DJ available the airwave squatters intend to cling to their frequencies.

The stations are winning some powerful supporters, especially in the Metropolitan Police, who say they are providing ethnic minorities with a constructive outlet, and the police with a new channel of communication. The DTI acknowledges that it takes police views into account before mounting raids on some stations, in case the raid provokes community feelings and leads to disturbances.

Not long ago a pirate station broadcast the licence number of a car soon after it had been stolen. Within minutes, a listener had called the police station to direct officers to the car.

"From a police point of view, community radio is a good thing," says Chief Inspector Alistair McNicol, a community policing specialist in north London. "The stations provide a vehicle for dispelling rumour. It's naive to think that isn't useful to us."

Jonathan Miller

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Now he sees it ...

On the door of a Miami office is an unequivocal sign. It reads: "James Randi, Charlatan". But you could be forgiven for thinking otherwise when you see the man plunge his hands into a human abdomen and pull out a kidney in a demonstration of the bare-handed surgery which is today a multi-million dollar industry.

Bare-handed surgery is a form of faith-healing. Its leading proponents come from the Philippines and claim to have developed a magical technique by which, without knives or artificial incision, they can insert their fingers into human flesh and pull out cancerous tumours. It leaves no scar. Of course it doesn't for, as Randi — whose other incarnation is as stage magician The Amazing Randi — is able to demonstrate, the whole business is nothing more than an elaborate sleight of hand.

Every year the bare-hand surgeons visit San Francisco for several weeks and perform their "miraculous" operations during a quick visit which leaves insufficient time for the authorities to prosecute. They return home several million dollars richer, leaving behind patients who are never better and often considerably worse for having turned down conventional treatment. Every one of a plane-load of victims

gives cash to creative individuals of outstanding talent and social worth, recognized Randi's achievements with an award of around \$250,000 to further his work.

To date no psychic has been able to claim the \$10,000 prize Randi has offered to those who can prove their claims under scientifically controlled conditions. Over the past 23 years, more than 650 people have accepted Randi's challenge, but most backed out when they realized the stringency of his tests.

The 75 who have been tested all failed when his magician's eye spotted their tricks. "The trouble is that you can never disprove the paranormal in theory, only in each individual case," he says. "It is impossible to prove a negative. You can push 10,000 reindoor off a cliff but it doesn't prove that reindoor can't fly; only that those 10,000 couldn't..."

"He has no academic credentials and therefore no academic restrictions," says the scientist and science fiction author Isaac Asimov. "He can call things as he sees them, and is not held back by professional politeness. There is no trick or illusion that he is not aware of and prepared for — unlike those scientific innocents who are so eager to accept the surface appearance that they are easier to fool than children."

James Randi's interest in the psychology of deception on which all conjuring depends began as a boy in his native Toronto. "I had a very unhappy childhood. I was a sort of child prodigy and so miserable at school that I used to stay at home making photo-electric cells or would spend days in the reference library, delving into arcane subjects. I learned to read hieroglyphics and became fascinated by

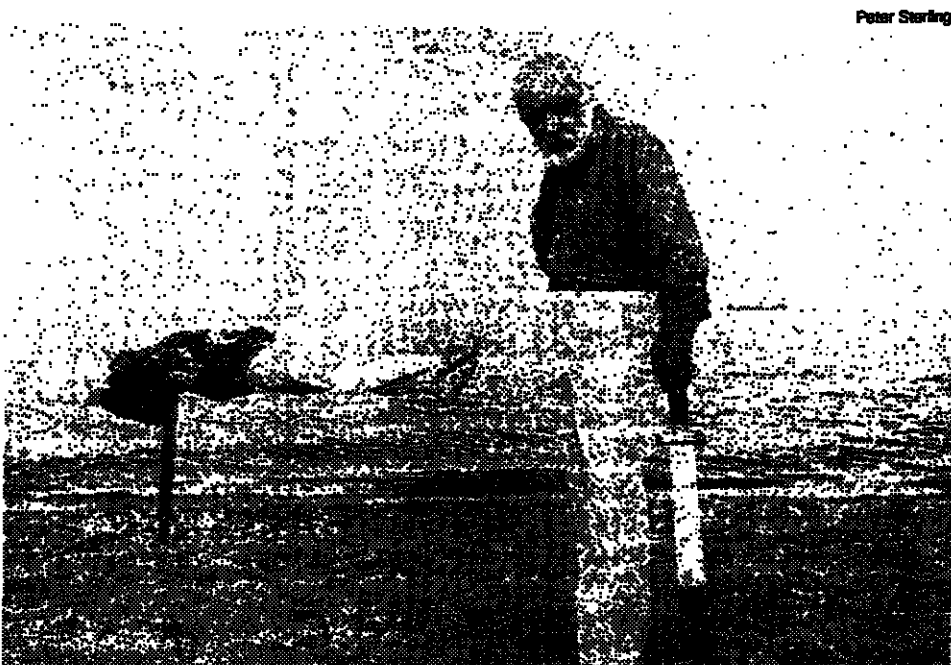
Exposing the frauds who pass themselves off as miracle workers has won James Randi acclaim — and death threats

who flew to the Philippines for the operations was dead within 18 months. Randi is outraged by the activities of those who abuse the techniques of his profession to prey upon the ingenuous. So much so that he has taken increasing amounts of time away from his stage act to investigate the claims of faith-healers, psychics, spoon-benders, mind-readers, diviners and other exponents of the paranormal.

In the United States, that kind of thing is now being treated with increasing seriousness. It is now possible to take courses in ESP and related activities at 112 American colleges. The Pentagon apparently established a secret research fund into a psychic "Star Wars" project. In such a context Randi's debunking (including a notable duplication of Uri Geller's feats) has proved impressive. Last year the eminent MacArthur Foundation, which

gives cash to creative individuals of outstanding talent and social worth, recognized Randi's achievements with an award of around \$250,000 to further his work.

Paul Valley



A master of illusion: magician James Randi supervises one of the classic levitation tricks physics, astronomy and psychology.

He practised tricks before his parent's bathroom mirror and then, as a teenager, found to his horror that one of them was being used by the faith-healer in a local spiritualist church. He rushed up to the platform to reveal all, but the duped congregation booed and ejected him. "It was my first lesson in the fact that many people want to be fooled. They are pleased when responsibility is taken out of their own hands and transferred to some Other Reality."

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BOOKS

Grande dame of American letters

Marianne Moore, the American poet, was often photographed in a demure, urbane hat; the hat became famous. Occasionally she changed it for something with a broader brim, but she always looked immaculate, the paradigm of an East Coast grande dame: here, one knew, was a stylist who believed in possessing a definite outline. She had, she wrote, "a burning desire to be explicit" — so, although this collection of her prose starts with some juvenile contributions to the Bryn Mawr college magazine, and ends with a tribute to a New York baseball team written when she was in her 80s, the style never really changes. There is the same coolness, the same precision: the words like tiny pebbles that she has been rolling in her mouth before she sets them down in order, all smooth and pale and hard.

As a result she may be something of an acquired taste, at least for those who like their prose "hot". She is always correct, always fastidious; but she is rarely impassioned, and never polemical. This reticence is all the more surprising since she was a poet writing on literary topics in the first days of modernism, at a time when her contemporaries were almost shouting each other down in the interests of "making it new". One of the small cultural curiosities revealed by this volume is that Marianne Moore could see equally the merits of Ezra Pound, T.S. Eliot, or William Carlos Williams, without troubling herself about the arguments between and around them. She did not take sides. She did not see the need to take sides. She remained ineluctably, even defensively, herself.

In other words this collection demonstrates that she was a reviewer rather than a critic. She seems to possess no systematic theory of literature, nor any coherent sense of literary history; but what she has instead is that alert responsiveness to the work of others which springs from an intuitive understanding of her own art. It may be true that the critic and the creative artist are often the same person, as Eliot once suggested, but it is equally true that the artist and reviewer may also share the same skin.

The difference is this — the creative critic invents an order in which his own work can be placed; a creative reviewer tries to make better sense of the one already to hand. One tends to be rhetorical or polemical, the other precise and technical. Marianne Moore knew a

Peter Ackroyd
on the poet and
fastidious
reviewer of
real toads and
imaginary gardens

THE COMPLETE PROSE
OF MARIANNE MOORE
Edited by Patricia Willis
Faber, £30

great deal — she may even have known more than such self-advertising scholars as Pound — but she never actually exploited that knowledge in the interest of some larger design. Perhaps that is why she is less celebrated than some of her contemporaries; certainly it explains why, although she often writes about Eliot *et al.*, she has nothing that is powerfully original to say about them. Like some 19th-century reviewer, which she often resembles (one can see her writing in the *Westminster Review*), she describes the felicities, elucidates the theme, and on occasions points a moral. But that is where her engagement ends.

Nevertheless these reviews are definitely the work of Marianne Moore the poet, the flavour of her prose being unmistakably also that of her verse. There is the same somewhat prim straightforwardness which occasionally deviates into irony, the same relentless honesty, the same patrician wit — "In being urged to prepare for the Blake centenary," she once wrote, "we are a little at a loss. If we are not already prepared, it is difficult to know how we are to become so." This kind of prose seems very American in its emphases, very Puritan both in its single-minded dedication to truth and in its concern with the "actual" (one of her favourite words). Yet she was also very much part of her own age — she was never an Imaginist, nor was she ever a conservative theorist on the model of T.E. Hulme or Ezra Pound, but in her demands for "aesthetic self-discipline" and "achieved remoteness" she clearly shared their concern for the precision, clarity, and compactness that were to be pitted against the faded self-express-



sion of the late 19th century. There are always such tides in taste, and even the most heroically individual or isolated writer cannot entirely escape them.

Unlike many of her contemporaries, however, Marianne Moore seems positively to have enjoyed reviewing — a strange fact, perhaps, but there are a few brave writers who do. At first she wrote for *The Dial* and other small magazines; then, in her later and more famous years, she wrote for such apparently eminent organs as *Women's Wear Daily* and the *New York Times*. While for many journalists was an intolerable distraction, for her it

was a way of staying fresh, of keeping up with a culture that was rapidly changing.

So she ranged very widely, from a book on jewellery to one on politics, from dancing to the cinema — to paraphrase her famous poem, she was interested equally in real toads and imaginary gardens. And as a result she was often very entertaining — 100 of her words on *Arachne* by Amos Niven Wilder are no doubt infinitely preferable to the book itself. But she never wrote her smartness, or her ego, on her sleeve. She was not one of those reviewers who introduce the first person singular at every opportunity, so

that their pieces read like extracts from a private diary of more than usual dullness. She held herself back. She allowed the work itself to move forward.

It is for this reason, perhaps, that there is not one clumsy or incompetent piece in this collection. Although not all of the reviews are uniformly inspired, they all reach the same level of clarity and precision. It is in itself a not inconsiderable achievement, as Marianne Moore might have put it; and although *The Complete Prose* will never rival her *Complete Poems* it is still a formidable accompaniment to that celebrated volume.

Man is a nasty piece of work

FICTION

Stuart Evans

THE HEART OF
THE COUNTRYBy Fay Weldon
Hutchinson, £8.95

KATE VAIDEN

By Reynolds Price
Chatto & Windus, £10.95THE SOUND OF MY
VOICEBy Ron Butlin
Canongate, £7.95

CASSIDY

By Morris West
Hodder & Stoughton, £10.95SPANKING THE
MAIDBy Robert Coover
Heinemann, £8.95

It will come as no surprise to readers who admire and are sometimes exasperated by Fay Weldon's fiction that her latest novel is witty, often comic, acerbic when it is not vitriolic, and readable. The manic feminist narrator writes from a psychiatric hospital ("loony-bin") at the behest of her psychiatrist ("shrink") as a form of therapy. She describes the squalid deceit, injustice, and moral obliquity that underlie the false idyll of *The Heart of the Country*.

Natalie, pretty and feckless, is deserted by her unspeakable husband, who leaves her with two children and a Sierra Nevada of debt while he swans off to Spain with his secretary. She is befriended, grudgingly, by Sonia (the narrator), divorced with three children and veteran of bureaucratic intransigence. As she writes, Sonia tries to see herself objectively, but her anger about men and scorn for all that is rotten in the state of Britain, at the heart of the country, keep breaking in.

Both women have been untrue after their fashion, a prey to the monstrous regiment of local men, who are venal, crooked, lecherous, and misunderstanding. Most of their female acquaintances are similarly blighted. Unerringly aiming darts in all directions — at politicians, welfare officials, bankers, estate agents, and the institutions they serve — Fay Weldon's story moves to a startling climax at a country carnival. The construction is neat and artful, the prose biting exact, even if the conclusion is perhaps a little glib. What a nasty piece of work is man? Well, perhaps some of the time. But there are a few quite decent specimens here and there.

In contrast to Fay Weldon's jaundiced Somerset landscape, Reynolds Price paints an altogether different picture of rural North Carolina in the 40s. This lyrical novel, told in the first person by Kate Vaiden herself, using the colourful dialect of countryfolk with a rich talent for simile, is sometimes a shade sentimental, but more often deeply moving, and in certain passages beautiful. At the age of 57, Kate looks back at her restless early years, during which she was bereft and did her share of bereaving. She was orphaned when her madly jealous father shot his wife and then himself.

She was cared for by her mother's older sister, and shown kindness by friends and neighbours, black and white. At a precocious age she began and pursued a gentle love-affair with a boy a little older, to whom she was devoted until he was killed in a marine training exercise. Badly hurt by the jibes of a cousin, she moved to live with his brother, a saintly character, rejected years ago by his family for his friendship with a young orphan, Douglas Lee, with whom he still lives. Kate becomes pregnant by Douglas Lee, deciding to abandon her cousin.

This becomes the pattern of her young life. She walks out on Lee, returns to her aunt and uncle, and eventually walks out on her baby. She (who has nearly always felt alone) leaves others before they can leave her. The rest of her life is spent routinely with sporadic loves and affections. It is a novel about belonging and caring, about self-realization and a kind of consideration

to be joined in due course by Cassidy's disaffected wife. He enjoys a placid married life and successful business career, until Cassidy appears a few gasps away from death to offer him a bitterly ironic and vengeful legacy.

Gregory is transported into an Australian, SE-Asian world of financial, political, sexual, and criminal finagling in which he is in constant danger. Violence and erotic encounters are suggested without superfluous detail. The plot is intricate and the resolution abrupt. Mr West's readers will be familiar with his moral strictures upon those who flounder financially, politically, sexually, and criminally, so exploiting the unsuspecting public. Good best-selling copy through, aren't they?

Bizarre persons who cherish fantasies of beating callipygian young women will no doubt be much exercised by *Spanking the Maid*. The rest of us will find this meagre excuse for a novel as pretentious as it is unpleasant.

Artisan
into
Artist

POETRY

Robert Nye

SELECTED POEMS
1964-1983
By Douglas Dunn
Faber, £9.95

To achieve is only to be less than all these dead. There is no success. Thus Douglas Dunn once, in a poem called "A. Faber Melancholy", where he seemed to regret that his habit of concentration on the small and particular did not allow him the freedom of thought and feeling associated with high romances such as Byron and Shelley. Yet, as a matter of fact, Mr Dunn has been achieving things which are not "less" than the glorious gestures of romanticism, merely statements in a quite different kind of sign-language. And it is good to see him now giving the lie to his own misguided self-criticism simply by omitting that poem from his new book.

Mr Dunn is an uncommonly shrewd critic of his own work, since at the other end of the spectrum he also omits from this book his cruder postings as a man of the people dedicated to finding poetry in the lawn mower and between the bedclothes. I think *I'm Horace* with a new *Of the gasworks*, he once announced in a poem dedicated to Philip Larkin and Ian Hamilton. That has been jettisoned as well, and a good job too.

What has been permitted to survive almost certainly shows Douglas Dunn at his best, and it seems to me a best

about as good as that of any living English poet under 50. The book is a real eye-opener: its seriousness so self-evident that it stands out from the rack of contemporary verse as something excellently made, the work of a craftsman well aware of what he needs to do in order to become an artist.

Why be discreet? A broken heart is what I have —
A pin to burst the bubble of
shy poetry.
Memoirs revealed as
what, in life, she stands for.
This, from the "Elegies" for

his wife which conclude the collection, combines feeling and intelligence, inspiration and scholarship in near-perfect proportion.

Two Horse Wagon Going By (*Carcanet*, £5.95) includes more than 60 poems written since 1978, and is being published to mark the sixtieth birthday of the English surrealist poet Christopher Middleton. While none of the pieces has the power that distinguished his earlier work, I think the book has value as a collection of strange small stories in verse, episodes in language, linguistic events, that smack at disenchantment by their untiring inventiveness. Middleton's fecundity is lethal almost suicidal.

The verdict has to be the positive one that this is cerebral, literate, and stimulatingly un-English book, full of inconsequence and polymorphous perversity, the product of some dandyish resolve on the part of the poet to wear his tribulation like a thorn. I like the way that Middleton makes even his nostalgia read like tomorrow's newspaper. This is a strength. It means survival — survival, at a rough guess, somewhere on the level of Clough's "Amours de Voyage": nervous yet relaxed, intelligent, dry, self-ridiculous.

The all-star caste of
Ireland and Crown

Brian Martin

TWILIGHT OF THE
ASCENDANCY
By Mark Bence-Jones
Constable, £14.95

The face is very familiar. But what's the name, Marm?

that these are but a few; in the book the best are yet to come. The Ascendancy's fortunes inevitably suffered from the attentions of Parnell's and Davitt's Irish National Land League, and from the electoral success of the Home Rulers in the 80s and 90s, which put most Ascendancy members into Unionist ranks. Gladstone's Home Rule policy alienated them. Lily Bence-Jones of Lisselane wrote to her sister: "If that hard-headed brute Mr Gladstone could only be hung in chains as the officer with the Dragons from Bandon suggested yesterday, we should do very well." The writers, Edith Somerville and Ross (Violet Martin of Ross in County Galway) both travelled to England, so incensed were they by Gladstone's intentions, and campaigned against the Liberals in East Anglia.

The Home Rule Bill was eventually passed, but it did not pre-empt a Nationalist uprising. 1916 saw Lord Fermoy and Herby Langrishe stranded in Dublin's Kildare Street Club, an Ascendancy bastion, while bullets flew around it and the Post Office. The early 20s witnessed open war between Irish Republicans and the Free State; and be-

As might be expected, there were among these people of means and substance, and great leisure, men of spirit, eccentrics, drunkards. When the visiting Elizabeth of Austria fancied a horse she saw and offered to buy it, Robert Fowler of Rahmston declared, "I'm not going to have any damned Empress buying my daughter's horse." The absentee landlord, the Marquess of Clauricard, shuffled round the streets of St James's dressed like a tramp, and was alleged to be personally malodorous. Meanwhile, the Earl of Clonmell got drunk at a garden party, rushed over to Queen Victoria, shook her hand warmly, and said that although he knew her face he could not for the life of him remember her name. In a typical Irish way, the Delmerge family at Castle Park near Limerick ate bacon which had been "exported from Limerick to London, then repatriated." And, should you think Bence-Jones is done a disservice by the retelling of these stories, the assurance is

Mark Bence-Jones charts the Ascendancy's decline from its heyday in the 1870s. Their pastimes were bicycling, tennis, fancy-dress balls, playing cricket for *Nu Skeler*, the Irish equivalent of *I Zingari*, all of which were "subordinate only to hunting and horsemanship". The passage of time was punctuated in decline, no less than in the years of superiority, by the annual Viceroy's debutante balls at Dublin Castle, and Royal Dublin Horse Shows.

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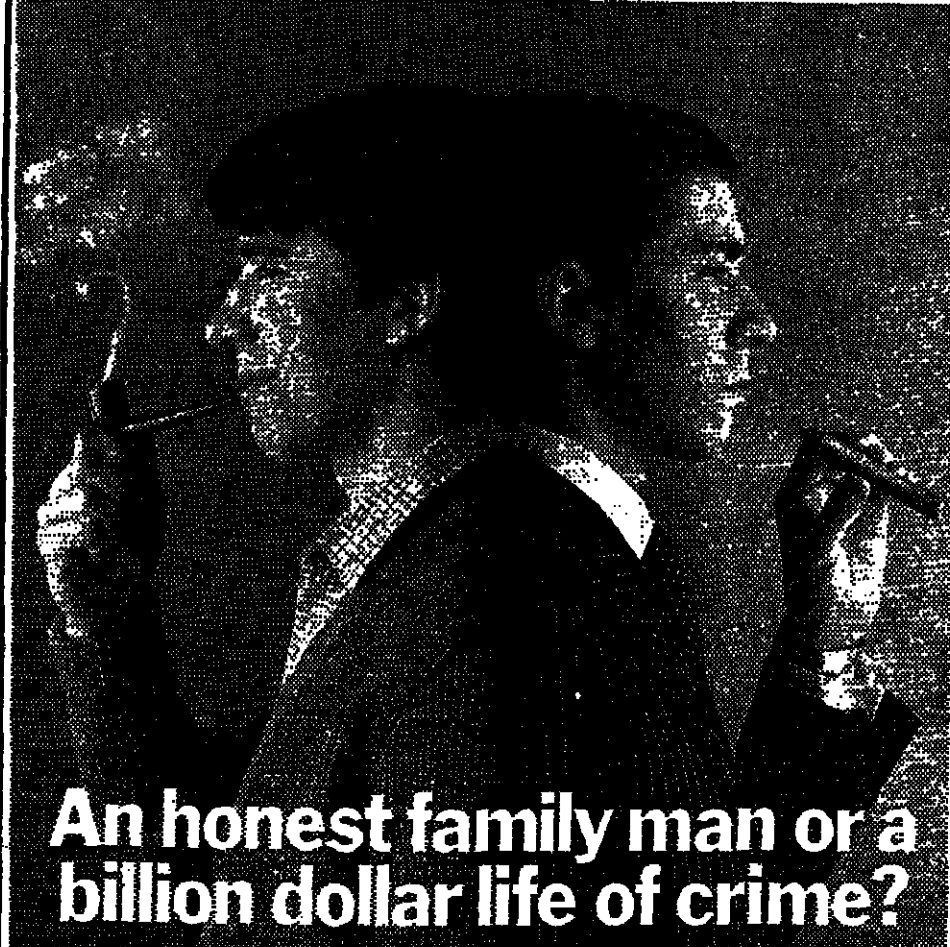
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THE TIMES DIARY

Seeing red

Mrs Thatcher's barnstorming speech at the Conservative Winter Ball at the Grosvenor House hotel convinced the party faithful that she is raring to fight the election. It did not, however, stop guests remarking on the bloodshot appearance of her right eye. Yesterday, her physician, John Henderson, was quick to dispel fears that she is suffering a recurrence of the eye condition that led to surgery for a torn retina in 1983. He says she has a small sty, for which he has prescribed ointment, and that it is unrelated to her operation. Adding, "We would all be having heart attacks if we thought it was anything to do with that." He admitted, however, that since he is "never allowed to see anything unless it's serious", he had not himself examined the eye. The Prime Minister clearly feels as confident about judging her own health as the nation's.

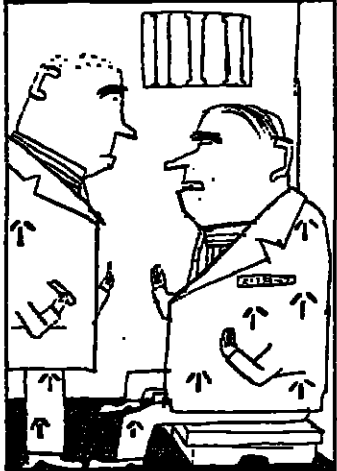
Tebbit, contd

Norman Tebbit continues to play with vigour his role of the media's most maligned man. With a libel action against *The Guardian* pending, there has been a stiff exchange of letters between the Conservative Party chairman and the president of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce following an edgy dinner attended by Prime Minister in December. In his speech, the chamber president, John Morris, made it clear he was riled by comments from Tebbit about the north's "self-inflicted wounds", as reported in the city's *Evening News*. Claiming he had been misquoted, Tebbit sent Morris a full transcript of the BBC Radio Manchester interview from which the *News* report was taken. This, I fear, did not silence Morris, who wrote back reiterating his comments, enclosing a copy of his own speech at the dinner and extending an invitation to Tebbit to put across his views in person. Tebbit has replied suggesting that Morris should pave the way for a return visit by sending a letter of rebuke to the *News*.

Booked

The announcement of Sonny Mehta's appointment as president of Knopf Books in New York may not prove to be the final chapter in his much celebrated transatlantic odyssey. Last March, Mehta, Pan's outgoing editorial director, was fined in Adelaide for possessing cocaine. American immigration rules bar drug offenders, though waivers for minor infractions are known. Knopf, which is processing the papers for Mehta's work permit, is optimistic that its lawyers can smooth his way to the presidential chair. Meanwhile, Mehta's office at Pan is anxious to set the drug record straight. "It was all an unfortunate mistake," a spokesman explained. "It was a very small amount of cocaine and he didn't know it was there."

BARRY FANTONI



Effectual dons

With two main contenders for the Oxford chancellorship Balliol men, there has been speculation about which the college's senior common room would back. In 1960 the college firmly declared itself for Harold Macmillan, a product of its red walls, against Oliver Franks, a Queen's man. With an insoluble conflict of loyalties this time round, I understand that it has been privately decided to refrain from backing either Ted Heath or Roy Jenkins. Dons will have to make up their own minds.

Not so faceless

Simon Hornby, chairman of the Design Council, seems set to spend a while longer in the doghouse for his lambasting of the council in an interview in this month's *Vogue*. At a packed staff meeting on Tuesday called by the council's ASTMS union branch, Hornby was asked to apologise for declaring the council's magazine unreadable, its label irrelevant and the Design Centre a second-rate souvenir shop. Copious apologies duly followed. But this wasn't enough for the Design Council's board of trustees. They went on to debate a motion of no confidence in their chairman of six months. Though the council is trying to keep the row private, I learn that the assembled civil servants voted 55-55. Hornby, who described the council in the interview as "faceless", must wait for the result of a suitably bureaucratic national postal ballot of staff to find out where he stands.

PHS

The first test ban to aim for

Frank Barnaby argues for a 'low threshold' way out of the arms-control gloom

This week's American underground nuclear test, the first of 1987, has extinguished any hope of the Soviet Union maintaining its 18-month moratorium on nuclear weapon testing, and has made the prospect of a comprehensive test-ban treaty increasingly remote.

The continuing Soviet presence in Afghanistan and President Reagan's determination to pursue the Strategic Defence Initiative have contributed to the gloomy outlook since negotiations were abruptly called off in 1980.

Despite the pessimism surrounding a comprehensive treaty there is reason to believe that a "low threshold" test-ban treaty could be a politically realistic objective. There are two reasons for this.

First, the new American Congress, the majority of whom do not believe in the president's vision of a total defence against nuclear attack, is likely to defy him and demand some type of test-ban treaty. In fact, last August the House of Representatives voted 234-155 in favour of withholding funds for further nuclear tests above a yield of one kiloton.

This "low threshold" moratorium (to use the experts' jargon) was to have started in January 1987, provided the Soviets continued their moratorium and permitted the Americans to install seismic monitoring equipment on Russian

soil for verification purposes. The congressional demand for an American moratorium was dropped just before the Reykjavik meeting at the strong request of the White House. But Congress is now likely to press for the negotiation of a nuclear test ban — probably a low threshold treaty.

Second, politicians insist that any new treaty must be verifiable to high levels of confidence (at least 90 per cent). Non-governmental seismologists say a one-kiloton threshold can be adequately verified within 90 per cent of cases even if the other side cheats. But government seismologists put the lowest verifiable threshold at around 10 kilotons. The difference may be due to the caution of government scientists whose careers are at stake if proved wrong.

What could be the consequences of a low threshold treaty? Its greatest potential lies in undermining the "counterforce" weapons, such as warheads for the Trident-II submarine-launched ballistic missile, which are directed at precise military targets rather than on cities.

Generally, a counterforce weapon is equipped with a very efficient warhead with a very

small physical weight (one modern nuclear warhead, for example, has a power equivalent to 200,000 tons of TNT, yet weighs only 150 kilograms); it also is carried by a delivery system that can be targeted with great accuracy.

The availability of these counterforce weapons has given rise to notions about the "fightability" and "winability" of a nuclear war. However, nuclear testing of these refined warheads is essential in order to check that they work properly. If a low threshold treaty prevented the military from doing this, they would soon lose confidence in the reliability of their weapons and would be unable to consider a nuclear first-strike, requiring as it does an absolute confidence in the effectiveness of the nuclear arsenal.

This does not, however, apply to nuclear weapons used for mutual deterrence by Mutual Assured Destruction (MAD). Only a small number of warheads need to get through to an enemy's cities to deter him from making a surprise attack.

In other words, given the huge number of weapons in strategic nuclear arsenals (910,000 or so on each side) and the fact that a

nuclear attack on, say, 200 cities in each superpower would kill about 100 million Americans or Soviets, even very unreliable nuclear weapons are good enough for deterrence. MAD is possible with or without a comprehensive or limited test-ban treaty.

Finally there is the question of the new generation of "directed energy" weapons, which are essential to the development of SDI. A low threshold treaty would not prevent X-ray laser weapons being tested and demonstrated but it would seriously hinder development of those that could be used in any effective SDI. Higher-yield tests would be necessary to pursue the programme effectively.

Within a few years of a low threshold treaty coming into force the military would be unprepared to use nuclear weapons in a pre-emptive attack. Nuclear policies would soon revert to nuclear deterrence based on MAD.

For this reason alone, a low threshold treaty would be well worth having. A comprehensive treaty would, of course, be better. But until relations between the US and Russia improve, we should take what we can get.

The author, former director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, is a policy adviser to Nuclear Free, the non-partisan initiative to halt the arms race.

As the Ayatollah weakens, Robert Fisk assesses his contending heirs

After Khomeini, the Shark?

Up at his residence at Chemran, Iranian and Swiss doctors now examine Ayatollah Khomeini twice a week. Since the revolution eight years ago, he has survived three — possibly four — heart attacks but he is now bedridden with bouts of debilitating illness caused by acute prostate problems. A special heart unit has been installed at the Revolutionary Guards Hospital in Tehran and an entire floor there is sealed off from time to time when a restless night has aroused the fears of Khomeini's doctors.

It is scarcely surprising. The architect of the Islamic revolution and one of the 20th century's most important figures is now 86, existing on a diet of rice, yogurt, raisins and sleep, living humbly and quietly with his family and waiting — so his few confidants say — for the end. His son Ahmed controls all appointments, permitting only the closest friends and advisers to spend more than five minutes with a man who is evidently, if slowly, dying.

And no visitor is more welcome, according to Khomeini's doctors, than the man who counts on inheriting his role as *vali ye faqih*, supreme interpreter of Islamic law and arbiter of all legislation.

In theory, the heir is Khomeini's chosen successor, Ali Hassan Mohamed Montazeri, chairman of the Assembly of Experts. The old man's will is expected to endorse Montazeri, whose radical views on the export of the Islamic revolution, yet pragmatic policy on economic reform should ensure that the Imam's philosophy is carried on. But there are few people in Tehran who doubt that the truly powerful figure after Khomeini's demise will be his friend and ideological son, Hojatoleslam Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani. It is to him that Iran now looks for leadership; it was he whom the Americans correctly judged to be the most influential figure in the country; and it is he who is likely to bring the Gulf War to an end.

In Tehran, they call him *kuseh* — the shark — because of his smooth political skin. The nickname is well chosen. In just three months, he has turned to his own advantage the stigma of having arranged America's secret arms sales to Iran, and has ruthlessly cut down Montazeri's power by arresting up to 200 of his supporters, yet remains the idol of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, the unifying and physical force behind the republic.

To understand why he is the likeliest pretender to Khomeini's throne it is necessary to examine both the structure of domestic political power in Iran and the nature of Rafsanjani's personal history. Born in the southern town of Rafsanjan, the son of lower-middle-class pistachio nut farmers, he was a religious student of Khomeini in the early 1960s. When the Ayatollah was sent into exile by the Shah, Rafsanjani remained behind to help the network of theological opposition to the Shah's regime, raising



Montazeri is the dying Khomeini's favourite, but Rafsanjani (right) has the real power

money for Khomeini's cause. In 1975, he travelled to Lebanon, to the spiritual roots of the Islamic revolution in the villages east of Tyre. His return to Iran was followed by six years in prison.

His clerical revolutionary credentials are thus impeccable. Far more important, however, is his grip on the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps. As effective second leader of the corps he has persuaded Khomeini to agree to the setting up of a Revolutionary Guards air force and navy. The two principal commanders of the corps, Rafiq Doost and Mohsen Rezaei, are Rafsanjani supporters. At the warfront, Rafsanjani's witty, tough, intelligent countenance has proved popular and inspiring. He knows that the regular Iranian army — consigned to a logistic and artillery support role — cannot be trusted to uphold the Islamic Republic. Without the Revolutionary Guards, Iran could fracture into civil war.

When Khomeini dies, power will pass officially either to Montazeri or to a council of between three and five clerics who will include Rafsanjani. But Montazeri has already been effectively neutralized by the arrest of Mehdi Hashemi, the man who discovered the secret agreement between Rafsanjani and the Americans. Hashemi — whose brother is Montazeri's son-in-law — was the archetypal exponent of revolution, the man with the role of supporting "overseas liberation movements", especially those Muslim groups in Lebanon and Kuwait devoted to the overthrow of pro-western regimes.

But no sooner had he taken his revelations to Montazeri than Rafsanjani cut him down. Hashemi was arrested, charged with the murder of the Shah's private *mullah* (an esoteric and apparently revolutionary crime that has none the less been added to his list of wrongdoings) as well as the killing of numerous Iranian officials, the storing of weapons and explosives and the manufacture of forged documents.

Two hundred of his supporters, including the mayor of Isfahan, were taken away one night in early November. Hashemi eventually appeared on Iranian television, speaking from the special studio set up to film confessions at Evin prison in north Tehran, and talked mournfully about his misdeeds. His humiliation was complete.

Rafsanjani has meanwhile consolidated his position as a liberal in the West, although such a description has little relevance in Iran. His press conference in Tehran last week — in which he portrayed himself as only too keen to help western nations secure the release of their hostages in Lebanon — was a critical turning-point in Iranian politics, which is why Lambeth Palace was wise to take up Rafsanjani's offer of help over Terry Waite's disappearance in Beirut.

Rafsanjani knows, too, that the Gulf War — which took the place of the American embassy hostage drama as the radicalizing element in the revolution — will have to end, or at least reach a stalemate, if Iran's economy is to be rebuilt. As long as Khomeini is alive, the war will go on. If Iran wins, Khomeini is unlikely to be satisfied with a mere client kingdom in Baghdad. Do the Revolutionary Guards not speak always of their desire to reach Jerusalem after capturing the sacred Iraqi city of Kerbala? Which is why Rafsanjani is so important to the West and why Robert McFarlane and Colonel Oliver North travelled to Tehran on their extraordinary secret mission last year. For the Americans are more fearful about the outcome of the Gulf War than they choose to reveal publicly to their Arab friends. No one in the region believes that the display of American naval power in the Gulf is anything more than a bluff.

A US State Department team recently toured the Gulf area in a hurried effort to discover what would happen if Iran won a decisive military victory. Their deepest concern was the possibility that such a success would help to create an independent Middle East power bloc that would be

totally hostile to both the West and the Soviet Union. Thinking about the impossible has become a grim exercise for the Americans in the Gulf.

Rafsanjani is known to have been appalled by the way in which McFarlane blandly turned up in Tehran with his planeload of weapons; he had to distance himself from the arms deal, which he did in his speech of November 4 when the saga of the key-shaped cake, the forged Irish passports and the now famous signed Bible was first revealed.

Khomeini, on the other hand, is not suffering from senile dementia, and he could have other plans for Rafsanjani. His political testament (*vaziyat-nameh*) may confirm Montazeri as his successor but it could also condemn Rafsanjani; the Imam has performed a volte-face before, as ex-president Bani Sadr knows to his cost. Rafsanjani's son has evaded military service by escaping to Switzerland, as Ayatollah Khomeini recently tried to remind the majlis (parliament) before the state radio, run by Rafsanjani's brother, cut him off the air.

Yet the prime minister, Hussein Moussavi, is now a Rafsanjani man after apparently being promised the fulfilment of his land-reform programme after Khomeini's death. The slow extinction of serious opposition groups since the revolution — the Mujahidin, then the Tudeh communist party — has ruled out any possibility of a secular regime. Thus it will be Rafsanjani who will have to control the Revolutionary Guards Corps, to stop the fighting machine before it sweeps rampant across the plains of Iraq and even Jordan. It will be Rafsanjani who will have to bring the war to an end, re-establish serious relations with the West, ensure his own country's neutrality, and explain why the revolution has to be national rather than religious in order to survive.

The Americans chose the right Iranian; they just pushed too hard and too fast.

Banging on

Philip Howard: new words for old

The City, previously a stagnant pond of tradition, for once was a rich source of new English because of Big Bang, a term extended from deregulation of the London Stock Exchange to describe any fundamental or far-reaching change in organization. Before 1986 Big Bang either meant a theory to explain the creation of the universe, or was a colloquial term for a nuclear explosion. When the Americans deregulated their exchange in 1975 their code-name for the operation was Mayday. Big Bang is livelier.

Other fall-out from the City included Golden Hello (a large signing-on fee to bribe an employee to join a company); Golden Parachute (a contractual guarantee of compensation to an

employee if he or she gets the old heave-ho or is demoted following a takeover or merger). They joined the existing Golden Handcuffs (a large bribe paid to persuade an employee not to defect to the opposition).

There was much green-eyed envy about the monstrous salaries paid to City yuppies. A survey found that 7 per cent of City executives earned more than £100,000 a year; and one top dealer on a profit-related bonus scheme was reported to be earning more than £1 million. Mammon makes you sick, if you let the brute. *Shakespeare* reported: "Golden Handshakes and Golden Handcuffs are now part of every headhunter's vocabulary."

Other coinages by the chattering

City include Seag, or Stock Exchange Automated Quotations (a computerized system of displaying share prices and recording transactions that is the heart of Stock Exchange dealings after Big Bang); Taurus, or Transfer and Automated Registration of Uncertificated Stock (a computerized system for transferring and registering shares without the need for share certificates); share shop (an establishment where shares can be bought and sold by the public quickly with the minimum of formality and without investment advice); single capacity (the demarcated role of a stockbroker or stockjobber on the London Stock Exchange before Big Bang); and dual capacity, the double role, incorporating the jobs previously allotted separately to a stockbroker and a stockjobber.

It was a busy year in the City, inevitably producing busy chatter in the lexicon. Will we, I wonder, have "to do a Guinness" before 1987 is out?

Ronald Butt

High taxes and moral turpitude

If Roy Hattersley becomes Chancellor of the Exchequer, he will, so he has recently told us, reverse any tax cuts which Nigel Lawson may introduce in this year's Budget. We also know, because he had previously said so, that even if taxes stay as they are this year, he would put up them up by £3.6 billion. This increase, he says, will be paid for only by the better-off, who he calculates have benefited to that extent from previous Conservative tax cuts.

It is very fortunate that the sum needed for Labour's extra social spending can be neatly covered by those who can be described as high earners, with nothing required from anyone else. Of course, Mr Hattersley may well be, shall we say, optimistic. The present Treasury programme has cost £24 billion, and even if they are only half right, Mr Hattersley is going to need a great deal more than he says. But let us stick to the simple fact that taxes under Labour will go up by, at the very least, £3.6 billion. How should our consciences react to that prospect?

We now have it on the spiritual authority of the Archbishop of Canterbury that Mr Hattersley is on the right lines. Speaking in the House of Lords in a debate on the inner cities on Monday, Dr Runcie said: "We have substantial evidence from opinion polls that many people would be prepared to pay more taxes and forgo tax cuts in order to help divert resources to the poor. The response to my commission's report (*Faith in the City*) has confirmed this. I believe that if we are to have faith in the city, we must also have some faith in comfortable Britain. I do not regard it as axiomatic that such a Britain is basically selfish, uncaring, greedy and vindictive."

Neither, for what it is worth, do I think that these episcopal adjectives are a worthy description of what is curiously called "comfortable Britain". But the clear implication of the archbishop's words is that if comfortable (or, you might say, hard-working and sometimes reasonably remunerated Britain) does not want to pay higher taxes, then selfish, uncaring, greedy and vindictive is the proper description of it. That seems to be an opinion which, if not uncharitable, has simply not been thought out.

The archbishop has chosen words which traditionally describe the sins which we are all (comfortable or not) prone to, and he has applied them to a reluctance to pay higher taxes for state spending to help "divert resources to the poor", without even stopping to consider whether paying higher taxes is the best way to achieve his ends, and whether reluctance to pay for higher state spending can itself be morally justified. He has simply delivered a social, economic and political judgement in spiritual vocabulary, even if not informed with spiritual insight.

Now it is unarguably true that there is a great deal wrong with the inner cities and also with the welfare services. The two often overlap. For the state of the

welfare services, I lay much blame at the Thatcher government's door, though from a point of view which would not, I suppose, appeal to the archbishop. Nobody who has had to try to help an old person in failing health, living alone, unable to go out and without any coordinated help from the medical and social services could think that all was well. Nor could anybody who takes someone to a hospital, to be greeted with a poster proclaiming, quite rightly, that junior doctors should not have to work more than 60 hours a week.

But the government's failure is not in spending insufficient public money. It is a failure to define which public services are essential, how they should be organized and financed, what the public purse should pay for and what not. Instead, it has gone on accepting the old apparatus bequeathed to it from the past, patching up where it can, spending more but never enough on what matters.

Meanwhile, the problems of the inner city areas are multiplied by wasteful deployment of funds on foolish causes and bad management. The Labour Party is angry about the appalling run-down conditions and the financial crisis in eight Labour London boroughs where inefficiency is rife and which typify the worst of the conditions with which the archbishop is concerned. They prefer to blame the government's cuts and to point out that the commission drew favourable comparisons with other Labour authorities.

The Audit Commission is, of course, criticizing the management, not the politics, of some local authorities, but the two are inextricably linked. The attitude of the local authorities condemned is that money can be spent in all kinds of irrational ways without regard to the cost and with no sense of priorities. So good causes are starved of money. Reluctance to see taxes higher is not moral turpitude but a judgement on the part of many people that they do not trust those in bureaucratic and political authority to spend their money constructively. If it were to pay for efficient services for those who genuinely cannot help themselves, the old, children, physically and mentally handicapped people, then who would not gladly pay?

Economics is a matter of allocating insufficient resources and it can be done either by the market or by the state. It was incontinent public spending, which bred the inflation which destroyed the pensions and savings of old people who now fear they cannot afford to heat themselves properly in a Siberian winter. Where the state is responsible for spending, it should be essential and on a clearly defined and accepted scale of priorities. But the government has never got round to working one out, because it feared to cause offence among the morally enlightened if it really got down to the business of separating the social sheep from the goats.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

No respite from Britain's battle

Despite the troubled era through which the nation is passing, MPs — as the last few days have shown — frequently find time to mention spy satellites, moles in MI5, Mr Duncan Campbell, the Special Branch, Sir Michael Havers — in other words, the lighter side of life.

In a sense, it is their way of relaxing from the tension of local government finance. Battle of Britain pilots used to play cards or listen to Dame Vera Lynn. Between dogfighting the state support grant, MPs while away their time with a good shout about the country becoming a police state, or investigative journalists delivering us to the Russians.

But some days that is not possible. Yesterday members saw serious action all day. It consisted of questions to the ministers from the Department of the Environment followed by the Rate Support Grant Bill, second reading.

The House was in an appropriately sombre mood. Unlike occasions on which the House is arguing about, say, the security services, the lives of our agents in the field were at stake. Our thoughts were with them — brave election agents parachuted by Government and Opposition parties into marginal constituencies somewhere in England, as the security-conscious put it.

Even as we spoke, several of them were thought to be in action in Greenwich in occupied London. MPs were conscious that what they said yesterday could affect the outcome of the war.

Understandably, passions ran high. The proceedings included references to Hitler, Marx, Thatcher, Trotsky and Chope. Chope? That is correct, Mr Christopher Chope, Under Secretary of State, Department of the Environment — presumably known as "Choppers" in the officers' mess.

He is a man conscious that local government finance is the crucible, the cauldron, the cockpit, and indeed the watershed, in which the next general election will be lost and won. He knows that if anything goes wrong he will have to answer at the bar of history, as well as at bars of Southampton, Ichen

(his constituency). So he gives no chance, takes no prisoners.

Some of us had had our eye on this Chope ever since the last Environment question time but one. During a skirmish with Labour he pointed out that the chairman of the gay and lesbian committee of a certain London council (which he named, but which we are withholding here on humanitarian grounds) had been convicted of an offence in a public lavatory. The pitiless under-secretary went on to point out that, if the chairman resigned, there would be a chance to test Ealing public opinion "on the policies of high spending and homosexuality".

Some of us refused to report the under-secretary's comments as the time for fear of inflaming public opinion in the borough concerned. Homosexuality has long commanded broad support among the British electorate. But policies of high spending understandably arouse deep opposition. The issue is: would parents in this particular borough want policies of higher spending taught in the schools as something morally neutral? Should children be encouraged to believe that Keynesianism is a lifestyle as normal as monetarism?

Our suppression of Mr Chope's remarks on that occasion meant the avoidance of any picketing of the borough's schools by Friedmanite parents. But, as yesterday showed, in this election year, he can no longer be ignored. Yesterday, in deploring the way in which Labour councils allegedly channel public service advertising to party organs, he denounced a left-wing council which advertised for a Director of Social Services in *Labour Weekly*. This could of course have been the midwives' trade paper. Mr Chope chose to believe it was a Labour Party newspaper.

Later a Tory backbencher said the leader of Derbyshire Council had insulted all Conservatives who fought in the last war by saying that next year's rate support grant was the worst bit of dictatorship since Hitler. Mr Chope denounced the fanatical Derbyshire leader and Hitler.



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WHOSE POLICIES FOR LABOUR?

Political parties are all coalitions of interest groups which fight from time to time. To its credit, the Labour Party has always been franker than most about its internal disagreements, converting the historic clashes of the past into gladiatorial sagas which are later lovingly retold in long winter evenings.

But the tensions of the 1980s are of a different sort. Each outbreak poses once again the question which dominates all others: can Labour, beset by contemporary political pressures and the accumulated social changes of the post-war years, construct a coherent "socialist" philosophy to underpin whatever programme they may propose in the manifesto for the election?

There is certainly no shortage of offerings on the subject. Mr Hattersley's recent pronouncements being only the latest in a long line which stretches back to the trauma of the 1983 election. But none of these commands a wide consensus. In the absence of such a stabiliser, the party's policy-making machinery sways and swerves, pushed and pulled by the strongest wind of the moment.

Examples of this tendency have come thick and fast this week. Caught between economic policy-makers on the one hand and electoral interests on the other, Dr John Cunningham backtracked yesterday on mortgage tax relief. That was not the only part of Labour's local government conference document which needed rewriting: a commitment to make the police

accountable to local politicians had found its way into the document in a form that would make a Labour government wriggle uncomfortably. It has now been replaced by something more nebulous.

Lastly, Labour's left have succeeded in reopening the question of Ireland. The attempt to weaken the assurance that north and south would only be united with the consent of a majority in the north, is not likely to succeed on this occasion. But it is a reminder that the party's Irish policy is an uneasy compromise between a defensive leadership which would like to do as little as possible, and a body of activists which favours unilateral British withdrawal.

This wing dislikes the Hillsborough Agreement and there lie the seeds of very dangerous trouble. The Agreement, never very likely to work quick miracles, has fewer friends than when it was signed just over a year ago. It is not impossible that Labour might win enough seats to govern in alliance with the Ulster Unionists.

There is one thing, and probably only one, which unites James Molyneux and Clare Short: opposition to the Hillsborough Agreement, and its abrogation is bound to be the price of unionist support in any hung parliament. Might Mr Kinnock be tempted to pay that price for power and in doing so, find a convenient way to buy a little support on his left? Since Labour has supported Hillsborough from the start, it would be a disgraceful and dishonourable

sacrifice of principle to expediency.

It is the kind of sacrifice which is easier to make when party policy options are chosen by power struggles between factions and when there are no clear guidelines to regulate the contest or the horse-trading which results. The new, and vaguer, formula on the accountability of the police could be interpreted in perfectly reasonable fashion: community representation could be enhanced on police authorities and an authority could be set up to cover the Metropolitan police.

But the wobble over Irish policy is a gloomy portent for the future. When Mr Kinnock's team took over from Mr Foot's, the left's progress in changing the party line was halted; now it appears to be gaining momentum once again.

If members of the Shadow Cabinet have to spend a high proportion of their time fending off unwanted manifestos from the left, this may well show intra-party democracy in action; but two other consequences flow from this institutionalised warfare. First, senior party figures have already little time actively to make policy, spending, as they do, so much of it reacting to unwelcome ideas. Secondly, some of those ideas will find their way into the manifesto or even, in government, into law. They will do so for the worst of reasons: they have survived in exchange for others dropped or because the leadership has simply been exhausted by the strain.

A NEW CONSTITUTION?

When Sir Edward Gardner's Bill, designed to incorporate in British law the provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights, comes up for its Second Reading in the Commons on Friday, several familiar arguments on both sides of the question will be rehearsed. Some of these can be safely discounted, or should, at least, be treated with serious scepticism from the outset.

To begin with, almost everything said by both the Bill's supporters and its critics about parliamentary sovereignty should encounter the gravest suspicion. The critics will complain that the Bill, if passed, would deliver a death blow to parliamentary sovereignty. To this its supporters will probably retort that it would do no such thing, since Parliament would remain free to amend the new act, or even to withdraw it altogether from the statute book.

This argument is theoretically incontestable; but it hardly befits those who use it. If Parliament were to tamper with Sir Edward's Bill after it had become law, those conflicts between the British and the European jurisdictions which the Bill is intended to remove would begin to be resumed. One of the chief purposes of the measure would thus be entirely frustrated. Sir Edward's supporters do them-

selves no service by pretending that the Bill is not designed in practice to place limits on Parliament's ability to legislate for the Kingdom.

They are also on extremely bad ground when contending that, far from reducing the characteristic British quality of the Kingdom's laws, it would enable British jurisprudence to make a valuable contribution to the legal systems of our European neighbours. Certainly, citizens of the United Kingdom who believe their human rights to have been violated would be able to take their cases in the first instance to British courts, but the judges in those courts would be bound to interpret the Convention, and appeals from their decisions would go to Strasbourg.

There is no gainsaying the proposition that the real choice which the Bill presents is between two essentially different sorts of constitution. One of them — the traditional one in Britain — rests fundamentally on the authority, indeed the omniscience, of Parliament; the other rests on the doctrine of the separation of powers and the authority of a supreme court appointed to act as guardian over a system of law based on highly abstract definitions of right. For this country to move along this last path would constitute at least the begin-

nings of a constitutional revolution. Are the liberties of the subject in Britain today in so much danger as to call for such a radical step?

Left-wing friends of Sir Edward's Bill, of whom there now seem to be quite a few, will cite the alleged tendencies of the Prime Minister to authoritarianism (and, in particular, the affront recently administered to the sensibilities of the BBC by the activities of the police) as proof that freeborn Englishmen need something more dependable than Parliament to safeguard their heritage. This argument should certainly be treated with contempt. Mrs Thatcher's authoritarianism (in any serious sense) is an illusion, and any procedural defects which may have been revealed by the Zircon case can easily be remedied without recourse to a new constitution.

One valid argument for the Bill can be invoked: the continuing clashes between British law and the Convention are a source of embarrassment, and few politicians are yet willing to suggest that these conflicts should be ended by our withdrawing from the Convention. That embarrassment, however, can still be borne, and the balance of the argument, in our view, is against attempting to redress it by anything so radical as Sir Edward's Bill.

SMALL EARTHQUAKE IN NEVADA

The latest nuclear test conducted by the United States has called forth predictable condemnations, not least from those Americans who wanted to protest in person against an explosion they believed had been scheduled for today. US officials insisted that tests were planned weeks and months in advance and conducted "when we are ready".

That readiness, however, will have been based rather more on political calculations — chief among them the impact on domestic opinion and, perhaps more important, the likely response of the Soviet Union.

In conducting its first nuclear test of 1987, the US administration has thrown down the gauntlet to the Soviet Union, which has been observing its own unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests for the past 18 months. It has compelled the Soviet leadership to make a choice: either to carry out its threat to abandon the moratorium once the US conducted another test, or to ignore it for the sake of the moratorium.

That is a more difficult choice for Moscow than it might seem. Renouncing the moratorium might placate those in the Soviet leadership who regard it as a sign of

Soviet weakness. At the same time, it would erode the moral superiority the Soviet Union has tried to build up abroad.

Ending the moratorium was always going to be a problem for Mr Gorbachev. In the past six months, he has been careful to prepare public opinion — in the Soviet Union and abroad — for the eventuality by giving the United States, as he would see it, just one more chance. The respective positions of Mr Gorbachev and President Reagan have, however, altered since the Soviet leader delivered his ultimatum.

It is possible to speculate that the Soviet leader's political standing may have been enhanced — following the postponed Central Committee plenum — to a point where he no longer has to be quite so circumspect about the opinion of some of his generals. The virtual neglect of military matters at the plenum suggests that he may now have a mandate for concentrating on the domestic economy, even at the expense of projecting an image of Soviet strength abroad.

But President Reagan's position has also altered. The drift of senior administration officials away from his camp and towards the next presidential election will affect his ability to steer US-Soviet relations

along the course he has pioneered. Congress, with Democratic majorities in both houses, is now considerably more interested than before in a test ban agreement of some kind. Moreover, the behaviour of the Soviet leadership is less easy to anticipate than before and the concept of the "evil empire" harder to sustain.

The superpower relationship is once again in flux. Washington, weaker perhaps than a year ago, has established by its nuclear test that its policies will not be modified to suit the Kremlin. It may now be the reader to make concessions. But how will Moscow respond? Will it coast along until the 1988 elections determine what sort of a US president it will have to deal with next time round? Will it exploit the weariness which pervades Washington after the test? Or will it start to talk seriously?

The outlook is by no means gloomy. Feelers are already being put out about the possibility of a third summit. And Soviet negotiators at Geneva are still talking vaguely about the prospects for agreement despite the failure at Reykjavik — and despite the latest US nuclear test which may turn out to have been a small earthquake in Nevada.

Better ventilation to reduce radon

From Professor S. H. U. Bowie, FRS, FENG

Sir, The comment (reports, January 28) on Government action on "cancer gas" is somewhat alarmist. Comparisons with the United States are not appropriate, nor is it correct to assume that igneous rocks such as granite emit more radon than some sedimentary rocks. Higher than normal levels of radon occur in several parts of Britain outside the much-quoted granite areas of Cornwall, Devon and Aberdeenshire. Volcanic rocks can contain as much uranium as granite and some shales 10 times as much.

It has long been known that radon can concentrate in poorly ventilated houses as it does in mines worked for various metals associated with uranium. In the latter case it is kept below danger levels by increased ventilation and the same solution could apply in the case of homes.

When I considered the problem of radon some 10 years ago I concluded that it was unlikely that concentrations in dwelling houses would constitute a health hazard, but changes in ventilation, brought about mainly by energy-saving modifications to existing buildings, have meant a reduction in the rate of change of room air, with consequent increases in radon levels.

Radon build-up depends on several factors, including geology, topography, ground-water flow, building materials, construction methods and forms of ventilation. It is a heavy gas, which collects at floor level rather than in upper rooms, but it is readily dissipated and rendered harmless by proper ventilation. Houses that are most at risk are those built on fractured rock with a higher than normal uranium content and with no under-floor ventilation.

Solid walls enhance the risk, but the greatest danger comes from blocking up chimneys and air vents. For this reason "modernised" homes that are not continuously occupied should be checked to ensure that ventilation is more than that induced by simply opening doors and windows. The replacement of floors, or of fitting an impermeable membrane beneath an existing floor, should be treated with caution. In houses which have had open fires the use of under-floor draught gates could be a solution. Yours faithfully, STANLEY H. U. BOWIE, Tanyard Farm, Clapton, Crewkerne, Somerset.

Soviet reforms

From Mr Lionel Bloch

Sir, Your cautious analysis (January 28) of Mr Gorbachev's proposed reforms offers a much-needed corrective to the uncritical acclaim which greeted this so-called "historic Kremlin demand for the extension of democracy". We forget that Mr Gorbachev is both the privileged product and a beneficiary of the Brezhnev era. He has recognised the need to do away with the dead wood in his party and the advantages of making the Soviet system more popular, but his aim is to reinforce rather than change the basic character of the totalitarian society over which he presides.

Should he succeed, he may become as popular as Hitler was with the German people. Whether such a *tour de force* would be in the West's interest is a fundamental question which tends to be overlooked in the current euphoria. Yours faithfully, LIONEL BLOCH, Halycon, Richmond Avenue, Richmond, Surrey, January 28.

Future of astronomy

From Mrs S. F. Johnstone

Sir, I read with interest Pearce Wright's articles (January 26, 27) on the future of astronomy. But unless there is a swift change in the Government's attitude towards funding of the sciences there will be no British astronomers left and no astronomy in the UK.

Astronomers are struggling to survive on short-term fellowships lasting not more than three or five years, with no guarantee of a job when the grant money runs out. In 1986 one permanent job became vacant, with the possibility of two further jobs this year. What sort of future is that for some of the brightest academics in the country?

Yours faithfully, SIONA JOHNSTONE, 18 The Chase, Royston, Hertfordshire, January 27.

Multiplying magpies

From Mrs J. A. Le M. Graves

Sir, If a hedge is cut in an A shape, the birds nesting in it are reasonably secure from bird predators; whereas if it is cut flat across the top, magpies can walk along at their leisure, dipping in for their lunch far too easily, and are thereby able to support large families.

The A-shaped hedge has other advantages besides being reasonably magpie-proof. It is a good windbreak, dense growth is encouraged at the base rather than at the top and makes it more stockproof, and it is less easily damaged by snow.

Yours faithfully, J. GRAVES, 2 Bridge Cottage, Wellington, Herefordshire, January 26.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Christian work in the world

From the Rev Canon G. E. Pettifer

Sir, Clifford Longley's article, "A layman by any other name" (January 26) raises many fundamental issues. If we are to know what the Church is for, we can only consider this in the context of the background of what God is for. It is in relation to an understanding of his purposes that the Church will find meaning for its existence and be able to identify its task.

Jesus spoke much about the Kingdom of God, that is, the challenging image of what it means for God to rule in the world in every aspect of its life. Therefore Longley's doctor, who is also a Methodist, is concerned with furthering the purposes of God through the exercise of his professional role. The work of the kingdom is his focus through the work of healing. Proselytising for the Church could be a dangerous distraction, both from the main task and from the proper professional ethic.

His role will involve facing many complex questions. Those who work in large-scale organisations of industry, commerce and government also face many perplexities. And in all these areas Christians are less well supported than they are in the field of family life or in their response to the local neighbourhood community. This is because 90 per cent of the ordained leadership of the Church is deployed in relation to the latter sectors of life.

The development of a growing number of ministers in secular employment is therefore an important contribution to the

strengthening of Christian participation in the life of the world and the search for the kingdom of God in all areas of human life.

None of this is particularly new. Indeed, virtually all the statements I have made are commonplace of theological discussion over the last 30 or 40 years. What is disturbing is that they need to be restated again and have not been absorbed into the life of the churches as fully as they should have been.

Behind this, however, lies a question about the nature of theology. If theology is seen as the professional expertise of the clergy, just as the law is for lawyers, or medicine for doctors, it will be heavily marked by that ambience.

In the same way, if theology is seen as something that is done by academics, it will reflect very clearly on academic context. But theology properly should be understood as a possession for the whole Church. It should be a resource for all members of the Church, including those sometimes regarded as lapsed as they wrestle with the issues which arise in experience. The root of the problem of the layman in the Church is a problem about the accessibility of theology.

Yours faithfully, BRYAN G. E. PETTIFER, Principal, St Albans Diocese: Ministerial Training Scheme, Holywell Lodge, 41 Holywell Hill, St Albans, Hertfordshire, January 28.

Mergers and the public interest

From Dr R. L. Marshall

Sir, There is, I submit, a clear enough and significant distinction in the remit to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to judge, in Sir Roger Falk's words (January 29), "whether a merger is against rather than in the public interest".

For example, at present the commission can reach the judgement that a merger is not against the public interest by either of two routes. It may argue that on balance there is a net advantage to the public interest in it, or it may only go so far as to argue that there is no net detriment.

If the remit were to be changed to judge whether the merger would be in the public interest, the denial of a basis for the discretion of the secretary of state to intervene could be reached only by the first of these arguments.

I have no discomfort with the present remit: it is, in a sense, less "interventionist" than the alternative now being canvassed. In the words of a once popular song it would "accentuate the positive/eliminate the negative" and it seems to strike a reasonable balance between the shareholders' and the public interest.

In the end we come back inescapably to the question of the public interest — not only what will be the effect on it of the merger but, earlier and more urgently, what that interest is. Section 84 of the Fair Trading Act 1973 offers some general guidance in this respect, accommodating a wide range of possible criteria, including competition, of course. In July, 1984, Mr Tebbit stated that references to the MMC would be made primarily on competition grounds — a step in

the direction of greater precision. However, when such references arrive at the commission, consideration of them has still to be governed by the terms of the Act. If still further precision is to be sought, then this area of statutory requirement has to be included in the reconsideration.

Yours faithfully, R. L. MARSHALL, Holly Cottage, 15 Beacon Road, Woodhouse Eaves, Leicestershire.

From Mr Kenneth G. Braidwood Sir, What would effectively halt much of today's merger mania would be a substantial drop in interest rates. Persistent dear money has created a climate of business and credit bent on high and quick profit and credit. The City doesn't create that climate; it operates within it. Money for new ventures has to be dear and scarce. Management is hard pressed to provide for the future stability and growth of their enterprises against shareholders' present demands. The takeover, together with subsequent asset sales, pension fund raids, and denial or reserves for the future satisfies the demands of the money market although the social costs are high and the future is heavily mortgaged.

As that shrewd merchant banker, successful entrepreneur and stern monetarist, Isidore Ostrey, wrote in the sixties, anticipating today's events, "high interest rates can never be really acceptable in a truly civilized community." Yours sincerely, KENNETH G. BRAIDWOOD, 15 Pembroke Court, Edwaredes Square, W8.

Legal abortions

From Dr C. B. Goodhart

Sir, The Bill to amend the Infant Life (Preservation) Act 1929, introduced in the House of Lords by the Bishop of Birmingham on January 28, seems to assume that under the present law abortions may be lawfully procured at any time below the limit of 28 weeks' gestation.

But that is not so: what the 1929 Act in fact says is, firstly, that any person who with intent destroys the life of a child capable of being born alive shall be guilty of the crime of "child destruction"; and, secondly,

evidence that a woman had at any material time been pregnant for a period of 28 weeks or more shall be prima facie evidence that she was at that time pregnant of a child capable of being born alive.

But this neither says nor implies that at under 28 weeks a child can be presumed not to be capable of being born alive, and it is well known that healthy babies delivered several weeks before the 28th can nowadays often survive, if they are given all proper care from the start. These are therefore already fully protected under the 1929 Act (explicitly confirmed by

the Abortion Act 1967), whatever their gestation age.

To lower the limit to 24 weeks, as proposed, should ensure that few if any viable children are destroyed, provided the gestation age had been correctly estimated. But it is all too easy to make mistakes, not always unintended, of up to four weeks in gestation age. So what is needed is for any late-aborted baby to be independently examined *post mortem*, with a report to the DHSS and/or the coroner, as to whether or not it could have lived.

This would not be too difficult to ascertain, since for example any baby above about 500 grammes with inflated or inflatable lungs would *prima facie* have been viable and so protected by the 1929 Act, whatever its gestation age was supposed to have been.

The Bishop's Bill, however, makes no provision for this, and it is not enough simply to rely upon an estimate of gestation age made by the doctor responsible before the abortion is procured, and not subject to any independent confirmation afterwards.

Yours etc, C. B. GOODHART, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.

A school in Brent

From Mrs R. H. Cornish

Sir, The report from HM Inspectors of Schools about the bleak state of education in many London boroughs, notably Brent (your report, January 28) comes appositely on the heels of Mr Kenneth Baker's proposal for a national curriculum.

Your column cites Aylestone School, "a comprehensive school in the deprived south of the borough, which has 600 pupils, most of them black". The interesting thing about Aylestone School is that, whilst most of its pupils are indeed black and come from the poorer areas of Kensal Rise and Harlesden, the school itself is surrounded by the more affluent area of Brondesbury Park.

The growing population of middle-class families in this area is faced with something of a Hobson's choice: to risk their children's future at the local school which has such a bad

reputation that the nearby shops close their doors and take on extra staff when the pupils emerge; or to find alternative education.

Those of us who can, scrape together enough pennies to afford private schools. Those of us who cannot, cajole grants from ILEA to send our children to State schools outside the Brent catchment area. Both these solutions stifle any hope Aylestone might have of improving its standards or providing a multi-racial, multi-ethnic environment for its pupils.

If a national curriculum were to be adopted it would go some way to encouraging parents from all backgrounds to use their local school, without the risk of "inappropriate" teaching styles, thus improving the sense of community and increasing the chances of equal educational opportunities for each child.

Yours sincerely, GAIL CORNISH, 45 Mount Pleasant Road, NW10, January 29.

ON THIS DAY

FEBRUARY 5 1930

Sir Bernard Pares, KBE (1867-1949) was an historian with a profound knowledge of Russia, who spent most of his life interpreting that country to the English-speaking world. His letter was prophetic for it has been estimated that by the end of the decade about 25 million persons had been forcibly moved from rural areas to factories in industrial centres.

THE NEW ERA IN RUSSIA

STALIN AND THE PEASANTS

"A GRISLY EXPERIMENT"

Sir, — Apart from all questions of diplomatic relations, may I call attention to the critical importance of the present moment for the fate of the Russian peasantry? Stalin, on his 60th birthday in December, wrote that 1930 is to be the year of the great changes and of that there is no doubt, whichever way the change may go. On the anniversary of Lenin's death, he denounced Lenin's last political act, the so-called New Economic Policy. We are already well on in an entirely new period.

The change, for all careful students of Russia, is fully explained by the evolution of the preceding period. From the Communist point of view, the New Economic Policy, except in one very important respect, failed. It was being evicted by the trend of life in the country. The whole period was full of glaring ironies. A mathematical demonstration was given to the population that in practice Communism — that is, the elimination of personal initiative — meant decay; that economic recovery was proportionate to the abandonment of Communism. Every instinct suppressed by the Communists, the religious, the academic, the economic, received a new vitality from the repression. There was only one big success, a negative one it is true — namely, that a number of hardy young hooligans have been brought up in blinkers and in complete ignorance of the outside world and its laws.

Stalin, whose violence was always feared by Lenin, has now expelled or subdued all his colleagues, and is determined by violence to force through at all costs the whole programme of militant Communism. It was the peasants who defeated Lenin, as Lenin himself admitted. He recognised, as all of us do who have spent long periods among them, that the peasants were the worst material for Communism, that they were essentially small-property men.

This essential character is what Stalin is out to alter by force. As is known, the Bolsheviks hoped to win in an industrial country, and had no real agricultural policy till they found themselves the rulers of Russia. He will mechanise agriculture, and he hopes that the difference in output created by State-owned tractors on military farms will cancel the inevitable loss caused by the simultaneous elimination of thrift. At the best he seems in for another great famine, and as likely as not for assassination.

That is the position; and, as one who has lived long among the Russian peasantry, I want to call attention to their plight under this grisly experiment; for the peasants are the mass of the Russian people, the raw material of the Army and the main producers of the country. The bulk of their long and dreary history was the story of serfdom, abolished in 1861, and it is really serfdom that Stalin is trying to restore.

In the name of a ridiculous and fantastic theory, which has already gone bankrupt once under the Bolsheviks, the peasant is to be deprived of all interest in the produce of his toil, and that by a Government which has the effrontery to style itself the "Government of the Workers and Peasants," but is, of course, in spite of its complicated system of castigated elections, nothing else but the present master of the inner ring of the Communist Party — Of course the peasants will resist, for even the poorest peasant generally owns his means of living to his more prosperous neighbour. But all the machinery of the State has been turned against them, and executions and wholesale confiscations are going on every day.

What will be the issue? Who can say, except that in any case it will be terrible? There are still arm chair theorists who regard it all as an interesting experiment, perhaps worth the sacrifice of a generation of peasants, and there are capitalists who, if payment is secured, will be glad to supply the tractors. But, though its name has been eliminated from the State title, there is still Russia, a country with only 3,000,000 industrial workers and close on 120,000,000 peasants, and there is still enough of the love of liberty in this country for votes to be raised against this new slavery. Yours faithfully, BERNARD PARES.

For want of a horse

From Mr M. R. Weale

Sir, Can I add to your revelations about the defence of the Swiss Confederation (Fourth Leader, January 31)?

In 1975 I worked on a farm in Switzerland. While I was there, the farm horse received papers ordering it to report for a medical examination, to determine whether it was fit for active service.

I never asked whether its ability to fly was investigated by the military authorities. Yours faithfully, MARTIN ROBERT WEALE, 8 Gwydir Street, Cambridge, January 31.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain will appear from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

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THEATRE

LONDON

★ **ALLO, ALLO:** Same cast as the TV show, same jokes, too. Prince of Wales Theatre, Coventry Street, W1 (01-437 0844), cc 01-240 7200. Tube: Leicester Square/Portico Circus. Mon to Thurs 8.10.15pm, Fri and Sat 8.40.10.15pm, matinee Fri and Sat 5.30.7.45pm, £8.50-£12.50.

★ **THE AMERICAN CLOCK:** Arthur Miller's musical spectacle of America battling with the Depression. Magnificent. National Theatre (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (01-526 2222). Tube: Waterloo. Wed to Fri 7.15-9.50pm, matinee Sat 2.4.3.5pm, £5.50-£13.50.

★ **BREAKING THE CODE:** Riveting performance by Derek Jacobi as the enigmatic Alan Turing, wartime computer genius and homosexual. Haymarket Theatre, Haymarket, SW1 (01-437 9822). Tube: Piccadilly. Mon to Sat 8.30pm, matinee Wed and Sat 5.30-7.15pm, £4-£13.50.

★ **BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS:** Neil Simon's vivid recollection of a Brooklyn childhood. Waves of emotion. A NT transfer. Aldwych Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-437 6404), cc 01-379 8233. Tube: Holborn. Mon to Fri 7.30.9.45pm, Sat 8.30.10.45pm, matinee Wed 3.15pm, Sat 5.15pm, £5.50-£13.50.

★ **CHORUS OF DISAPPROVAL:** Colin Blakely in Ayckbourn transfer from the NT: how to break hearts and wreck havoc being tremendously good-natured. Lync Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 5867), cc 01-379 8100. Tube: Chancery Cross/Embankment. Mon to Fri 7.30.10.15pm, matinee Wed 3.15pm, £5.50-£13.50.

★ **THE CIO:** The Cheek by Jowl company's marvellous resurrection of Corneille's masterpiece. The struggle of love against honour made human and witty. Donmar Warehouse, 41 Earlham Street, WC2 (01-437 8820), cc 01-379 8565/8433. Tube: Leicester Square. Mon to Sat 8.10.10.30pm, matinee Wed 3.15pm, £5.50-£13.50.

★ **GHOSTS:** Vanessa Redgrave at peak form in Ibsen's unnerving masterpiece. Until Feb 14. Wyndham's Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-437 8028), cc 01-379 5555. Tube: Leicester Square. Mon to Sat 7.30.10.30pm, matinee Sat 5.30pm, £4.50-£13.50.

★ **HOLIDAY:** Lindsay Anderson's fine production of a cracking old Broadway play about the survivors of the super-rich. Stars Mary Steenburgen and Malcolm McDowell. Old Vic Theatre, Waterloo Road, SE1 (01-226 7816), cc 01-261 1821. Tube: Waterloo. Mon to Fri 7.30.10.15pm, Sat 7.45.10.15pm, matinee Wed 2.5.5.15pm, Sat 4.45pm, £5-£12.50.

★ **THE HOUSE OF BERNARDO ALBA:** Glenda Jackson and Joan Plowright in Lorca's grim drama of

female sexual frustration. A soft centre weakens the impact. Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 3657), cc 01-741 9989. Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon to Fri 8.10.10pm, Sat 8.30.10.40pm, matinee Sat 5.7.10pm, £5-£14.50.

★ **THE MAINTENANCE MAN:** John Alderton plays a gay husband worried by his women. Comedy Theatre, Pantion Street, SW1 (01-437 5878), cc 01-240 7200. Tube: Portico Circus. Mon to Thurs 8.10pm, Fri and Sat 8.30.10.30pm, matinee Fri and Sat 5.30.7.30pm, £4-£12.50.

★ **MISALLIANCE:** Jane Lapland in George Bernard Shaw's treatise on the generation gap. Worby. Barbican Theatre, Barbican, EC2 (01-437 0725), cc 01-538 9831. Tube: Barbican. Thurs 7.30.10.45pm, £5-£12.50.

★ **MIR AND MRS NOBODY:** The home life of the Pooters. Imaginatively staged and not too cozy too often. Judi Dench and Michael Williams a beguiling couple. Gaiety Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-379 6107). Tube: Leicester Square. Mon to Fri 7.30.9.40pm, Sat 8.10.10pm, matinee Wed and Sat 5.30-7.15pm, £5-£12.50.

★ **ROAD:** A welcome return for the scorchingly brilliant account of life and sex in dead-end Britain. Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, SW1 (01-730 1745). Tube: Sloane Square. Mon to Sat 8.10.10.20pm, matinee Thurs and Sat 4.6.20pm, £5-£12.50.

★ **WHEN I WAS A GIRL I USED TO DREAM AND SCOUT:** Geraldine James and Julie Walters as two adolescent girls eagerly entering the remarkable world of Scottish Gaelic. Gaiety Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-379 6107). Tube: Leicester Square. Mon to Fri 7.30.9.40pm, Sat 8.10.10pm, matinee Wed and Sat 5.30-7.15pm, £5-£12.50.

★ **WOMAN IN MIND:** Poignant Ayckbourn drama with award-winning Julie McKenna as a wife at war with her husband. Vaudeville Theatre, Strand, WC2 (01-437 5987), cc 01-240 7200. Tube: Chancery Cross. Mon to Fri 8.10.10.15pm, Sat 8.30.10.45pm, matinee Wed 3.15pm, Sat 5.15pm, £5-£12.50.

★ **WONDERFUL TOWNE:** Marvellous Maureen Lipman in a hilarious zippy musical. Queens Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-734 0120/1166/7). Tube: Chancery Cross. Mon to Fri 8.10.10.15pm, Sat 8.30.10.45pm, matinee Wed 3.15pm, Sat 5.15pm, £5-£12.50.

★ **LONG RUNNERS:** The Business of Murder. Myer Theatre (01-437 8028), cc 01-379 5555. Tube: Leicester Square. Mon to Sat 7.30.10.30pm, matinee Sat 5.30pm, £4.50-£13.50.

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OUT OF TOWN

★ **COVENTRY:** The Fifteen Streets. Romance beckons across the great divide of class, adapted from Catherine Cookson's novel. Belgrade Theatre, Belgrade Square, CV3 3DP. Mon to Sat 7.30.10.15pm, matinee Wed 2.30.5.15pm, £25-£27.50, until Feb 21.

★ **DERBY:** A Day Out. Willy Russell's calamity-packed school outing. Derby Theatre, Theatre Walk, Eagle Centre (0332 363725). Mon-Thurs 7.30-9.30pm, Fri and Sat 8.10pm, £25-£25.50, until March 7.

★ **HARLOW:** Not About Heroes. Stephen McDonald's resonant account of the meeting of the First World War poets, Siegfried Sassoon and Wilfred Owen. Playhouse Theatre, The High, Harlow (0278 31945). Mon to Sat 8.10.10pm, matinee Sat 4.30-6.45pm, £25-£24.45.

★ **HULL:** Shakespeare's Henry: Michael Gough as Prince Hal and Henry V in Michael Bogdanov's trilogy for the New English Shakespeare Company. New Theatre, Kings Theatre, Hull (0482 20483). Henry IV Part One today 7.30.10.30pm and Sat 11.30am-2.30pm, Henry V Part Two today 7.30.10.30pm, £15-£23.

★ **LEEDS:** Little Shop of Horrors. Creepy thriller starring Audrey the blood-hungry plant. Playhouse Theatre, Calverley Street (0532 442). Mon-Thurs 8.10pm, Wed to Sat 7.30.9.20pm, matinee Sat 4.30-6.45pm, £24-£25.50, until Feb 7.

★ **LEICESTER:** Orestes/Electra. Obsession and madness in Ancient Greece: Nancy Mackler's fresh look at Euripides. Haymarket Theatre, Belgrave Gate (0533 53977). Mon-Thurs 7.45.10.15pm, Fri and Sat 8.15.10.30pm, £25-£25.50, until Feb 14.

★ **OXFORD:** Rowan Atkinson: Himself on tour. Apollo Theatre, George Street (0865 245444). Mon-Fri 7.30.9.30pm, Sat 8.30pm, 9.11pm, £5.50-£25.50, until Feb 7.

★ **STRATFORD-UPON-AVON:** ★ **Kiss Me Kate:** Paul Jones as Petruchio and Nicola McAuliffe as Kate in the RSC's first American musical. Royal Shakespeare Theatre, (0789 25623). Mon-Sat 7.30.10.30pm. Matinee Wed and Sat 2.30-5pm, £5-£16.50.

FILMS

★ **Also on national release** ★ **Advance booking possible**

★ **BOY SOLDIER (15):** A soldier is charged with killing an Irishman in Northern Ireland. An earnest drama from the director of *Grease*. (100 min). (01-437 8148). Progs 1.40, 3.55, 6.10, 8.20.

★ **THE COLOR PURPLE (15):** Whoopi Goldberg's splendid performance in a landmark film about the oppression of black women in the Deep South (154 min). (01-437 8148). Progs 1.40, 3.55, 6.10, 8.20.

★ **DOWN BY LAW (15):** Jim Carrey's off-beat comedy about three misfits who escape from a New Orleans prison. Immaculate scene-stealing by Robin Williams. (100 min). (01-437 8148). Progs 1.40, 3.55, 6.10, 8.20.

★ **THE MOSQUITO COAST (PG):** Harrison Ford and Helen Mirren in an atmospheric adventure based on Paul Theroux's novel about a family taking refuge from fast foods and vulgarity in Central America's rain and jungle (119 min). (01-437 8148). Progs 1.40, 3.55, 6.10, 8.20.

★ **THE NAME OF THE ROSE (18):** Simplified edition of Umberto Eco's medieval murder mystery. Filled with a fine sense of atmosphere and a gripping plot. (134 min). (01-437 8148). Progs 1.40, 3.55, 6.10, 8.20.

★ **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (PG):** Michael Crawford, Sarah Steinfeld, and Steven Berkoff in a musical adaptation of the novel by Gaston Leroux. (134 min). (01-437 8148). Progs 1.40, 3.55, 6.10, 8.20.

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Seaside attractions for Blackpool holiday-makers in the 1930s as captured by the camera of Humphrey Spender. Spender was a leading figure in Mass Observation, a body founded 50 years ago by a group of artists and intellectuals that also included the film-maker, Humphrey Jennings, the painter, William Coldstream, and the anthropologist, Tom Harrison. Their idea, startlingly original at the time, was to discover what ordinary people thought and how they lived. They focused their attention on the Lancashire towns of Bolton and Blackpool, taking photographs, painting pictures and

conscripting hundreds of volunteers to record conversations and log the nuances of everyday life. Moving out of Lancashire, Mass Observation charted popular perceptions of the Munich crisis and such rituals as the Lambeth Walk. A Penguin paperback, called simply *Britain*, sold 100,000 copies in 10 days. An exhibition conveying the breadth of MO's activities is at Watermans Art Gallery, 40 High Street, Broomfield, Essex (01-437 5651). Monday to Friday 12.30-8.30pm, Saturday and Sunday 11am-9pm, free, until March 29.

David Lee

Progs 4.00, 6.00, 8.00, 10.00.

★ **Screen on the Hill (15):** (01-437 5366).

★ **ESCALIER (15):** A cynical, misanthropic art critic gets his comeuppance. Based on a prize-winning novel by Elvire Murail; directed, uncannily, by Jean-Claude Cocteau. (101 min). (01-437 8148). Progs 1.40, 3.55, 6.10, 8.20.

★ **THE GOLDEN CHILD (PG):** Eddie Murphy as a social worker recruited to rescue a kidnapped, magical child. A bizarre mixture of sentimentality, special effects and Hong Kong kung fu. (94 min). (01-437 8148). Progs 1.40, 3.55, 6.10, 8.20.

★ **THE SACRIFICE (15):** Andrei Tarkovsky's testament - a starkly beautiful parable, shot in Sweden, with Erland Josephson as the intellectual hero facing the world's end (149 min). (01-437 8148). Progs 1.40, 3.55, 6.10, 8.20.

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THE ARTS

Digging dinosaur

I expect that if you or I had happened to stumble on a dinosaur's claw one day near Dorking we would probably have kicked it aside without a second thought. Fortunately for science, the Natural History Museum and Q.E.D. (B&C), it was not us who found it but a plumber called William Walker, and he knew what he was on to. He is a

TELEVISION

fossil collector with a son-in-law who houses a huge collection of the things, and they both suspected they had found a life of a highly unusual dinosaur. They decided to take it along to the NHM where they jumped — in a restrained, scholarly sort of way — for joy and dug the whole thing up.

We saw the museum boys chipping away at the siltstone rock in which the remains were encased, accompanied by pregnant snatches of dialogue — "Ah, a bone", "Encouraging, that bit" — and then the professionals tried to tell us exactly what was special about this new species of dinosaur. I got the bit about it being 124 million years old, probably 15 years old when it died, and meat-eating with a lot of teeth not unlike a crocodile (footage of crocodile) and eating habits possibly like that of the grizzly bear (footage of grizzly bear).

But what we really wanted to know was exactly how this chap looked different from all the other specimens in South Kensington. And while we had a convincing mock-up of the new find, complete with atmospheric music, a minute or two of dinosaur family trees and pictures of other related dinosaurs would have been more helpful than the breathless film of reconstructed telephone calls and excavators at work. Finding it must have been fun, but the thrill of the chase was over the need to explain the real significance of what had been found.

The latest offering from Howard "Rock Follies" Schuman is the wacky, way-out and wildly funny *Up Line* (Channel 4), about a failing trio of alternative comics who get involved in a cultish pyramid-selling operation. The trio are dropping out in a Sobo terrace — though their act, of which we see a post-*Headroom* sample, is actually rather good — when they are lured into the clutches of Pathway, the seductive, posturing, selling job with the evangelical theme-tune "Upline". This is the sort of thing that can easily get you hooked.

William Holmes



Musidora, the most piquant sex icon the age had ever seen, as the fiendish Irma Vep about to descend on sleeping innocence

Inexhaustible invention of the wizard of crime

Audiences took time out of the First World War to be thrilled and chilled by Louis Feuillade's huge masterpiece of crime and horror *Les Vampires*. Now, more than 70 years later, it has been restored to pristine image quality and its original length of more than seven hours. Shown for the first time in November at a homage in Perpignan, in Feuillade's native region, the resurrected *Vampires* now arrives in London to be screened in successive parts on Saturday and Sunday evening at the French Institute, Queensberry Place, SW7 (enquiries to 589 6211).

Feuillade was the undisputed master of the crime serial. Born in Lunel in 1873, he joined the Gaumont film company as a scenarist in 1906. Manically energetic and creative, within 18 months he was the firm's head of production. By the time of his death in 1925 he reckoned that he had directed 800 films. His first serial, *Fantomas*, released in 1912-13, enjoyed a bigger success than any other film Paris had seen until that time. *Les Vampires* appeared in 1915-16 in answer to the *Mysteries of New York*, a 24-part serial put out by the rival firm of Pathé.

Les Vampires is a labyrinthine tale of a brave young journalist determined to bring to justice a satanic gang of criminals of that name. Feuillade wastes not a moment getting into the thick of things. In the first minutes of the film the journalist rushes off to investigate the discovery of a headless corpse. Thereupon, given hospitality in the mansion of the mysterious Dr Nox — none other

Les Vampires, the huge and ancient masterpiece of French horror films, has been restored and is to be shown in London this coming weekend: David Robinson reports

than the Grand Vampire in disguise — he finds the missing head in a cupboard beside his bed.

After that it is a delicious escalation of disguises, catcombs and cellars, dastardly crimes, robberies, kidnappings, murder, poisoned rings and villainy at large, at the centre of which is always the fiendish Irma Vep (the anagram is not hard to unravel), played by Musidora, the French cinema's first and most spectacular *femme fatale*.

With her huge lustrous eyes and a voluptuous figure daintily displayed in black leotards, Musidora was the most piquant sex icon the age had ever seen. When the Paris police decided to ban *Les Vampires* on moral grounds, after only two episodes, a visit to the prefecture by the irresistible Musidora saved the day.

Feuillade's invention was inexhaustible. Anything might inspire or change the action. By episode six, for example, he had become irritated by the unpunctuality of Jean Ayme, who played

the Grand Vampire. He therefore handed Musidora a gun and told her to shoot the actor (with blanks, naturally). The large-scale holocaust in the film was partly conditioned, too, by the circumstances of war. Actors on service had to be snatched during their brief leave when they were due back at the front: their film characters had to be arbitrarily killed off.

Wherever the action might drift, however, Feuillade's extraordinary invention, and above all his gift for suspense — always sustaining our anxiety to know what will happen next — kept it moving relentlessly and mesmerically.

Like Alfred Hitchcock a generation later, Feuillade recognized that fantasy is never more potent than when it erupts in the most familiar circumstances. The setting for all the bizarre occurrences of *Les Vampires* is the bourgeois world of the *belle époque* — the streets and suburbs and cosy, over-decorated apartments of Paris. It is a world already conditioned by the beginnings of modern technology: telephones of marvellous form, and palatial cars gleaming with brass and polished leather, figure largely in the action. Setting his unfettered fantasy in this solid, everyday world, Feuillade unconsciously achieved a strange, distinctive, dreamlike poetry.

The screenings at the French Institute will be introduced by Jacques Champeux, the grandson of Feuillade, who is himself an actor and director, and collaborated on Georges Franju's recent remake of a later Feuillade serial, *Judex*, in 1964.

Qualified blessings

THEATRE

Fifth of July
Theatre Royal,
Bristol

Moving from a prolonged run at New York's Circle in the Square to a starchy cast Broadway transfer, Lanford Wilson's play was one of the conspicuous successes of the late Seventies. As it is a quiet piece, loosely plotted and lacking all the standard qualities of a Broadway hit, one has to assume that it was telling American audiences something they wanted to hear.

Mr Wilson did, indeed, have a message which is implicit in his title. *Fifth of July* portrays an Independence Day reunion for a group of 1960s veterans, survivors of the civil riots, anti-war demonstrations and campaigns for instant paradise. One of them, Ken, lost his legs in Vietnam, and the others are all wounded in one way or another. What Mr Wilson sets out to do is offer them a qualified benediction. Time has passed them by and they have missed their chance to change the world; but there are still some choices they can make, summed up in the figure of Jed, who follows Voltaire's prescription of cultivating a garden in the rubble of history. After Independence Day comes the Fifth of July, and the return to work.

As "state of the nation" writers go, Mr Wilson is uncharacteristically tactful: no public rhetoric, no action-stopping memory speeches, no formal exposition. He focuses exclusively on his eight characters, allowing you to drop in among them and pick

Only two plots are available to writers of historical romance: rich man loves poor woman or rich woman loves poor man. In either case social chasms yawn between the lovers, and only constancy, courage and some helpful deaths enable them to win through. This play dramatizes a novel by Catherine Cookson using Plot B: schoolmistress daughter of a Geordie shipbuilder falls recklessly in love with a doctor from just about the slummiest part of South Shields.

But, if this sounds like an outline of the usual escapist trash, there is something a good deal sturdier than the norm to Mrs Cookson's telling of the story. Seventy years ago she herself scrambled out of a Tyneside slum, and she writes



Fires of self-doubt: Garrick Hagon (right), Peter MacQueen

up their relationships and experiences as the day proceeds. Various American archetypes are hovering in the background. The setting, for instance, is a dilapidated Missouri farm, standing for the national inheritance (will it be sold to the go-getting John as a recording studio or will the land flower again?), and the treatment of the characters — from the 13-year-old Shirley's grandiose artistic ambitions to old Aunt Sally, who keeps her husband's ashes in the fridge — is in the line of America's "crazy family" comedies. And why not? It is entirely appropriate for a piece on national tradition to be built from traditional elements, especially as Wilson is well able to mould them to a shape of his own.

What comes across is a sense of complete truthfulness to character and the persistence of the past into the present. The first impression is of a chaotic house-party with loud merriment exploding into unexplained rows, everyone busily pursuing his own line of action and passing ominous comments on those

The Fifteen
Streets
Belgrade, Coventry

of this environment with a bracing certainty of detail. Thus her stalwart young hero, John O'Brien, humorous and likeable, is a far more solid creation than beautiful Miss Llewellyn (Helena Little). If her character is complex in the original it does not survive transition to the stage.

What Rob Bettinson's production does give is a large cast of 18 plus another 10 children in ragamuffin boots who taunt and scuffle with credibly slummy zest. The fights too (directed by Terry King) are vigorous and make

an essential contribution to the play's balance.

But of the book we are offered only a flavour. Too many scenes give no more than the salient feature of what must have begun as an altogether richer episode. In the absence of organic dramatic growth the story proceeds in jerks, and that it holds the attention as well as it does is due to decent acting in some of the smaller parts and the exceptionally attractive performance of Peter Howitt as hero. Whether summing, scrapping or tangled up in his feelings, his features are transparent to the emotions within. He also makes the wildest Geordie vowels into a language of love.

Jeremy Kingston

Vivid intensity

CONCERTS

CBSO/Rattle
Town Hall,
Birmingham

suggested that there is anger, and desperation too, in Berio's games. As for Esa-Pekka Salonen recently in London, Electric Phoenix were once more the stars at the Lévi Strauss night-club, but this time Daryl Runswick's vituperative narration was more comfortably embedded in an orchestral performance that had its own rude savagery.

The special intensity of this performance, resulting from vivid and imaginative playing throughout the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, roused the piece from the dreaminess it often has, and

Following Paul Griffiths's appeal on behalf of the music of Bill Hopkins and Jean Barraqué on this page a week ago, it is a pleasure to report a long-awaited performance of Barraqué's extraordinary *Le Temps restitué* in the new subterranean Auditorium des Halles. Credit must go to Paul Barraqué for his impeccable direction of the Ensemble 2E2M and the Groupe Vocal de France, and for the conviction that led to this performance of what is possibly Barraqué's greatest work.

Barraqué's own preference was for his Concerto, which began the evening. Scored for clarinet, vibraphone and six strings, this work sets out in a sublime, even joyous balance of exuberance and wonder, but proceeds obliquely through curious false climaxes to end

The focus of the concert, however, was *Le Temps restitué*, the central completed fragment of *La Mort de Virgile* and the first part of that cycle to be conceived, in 1957. Scored for soprano, choir and

orchestra, it was composed like the Piano Sonata with a single row, and has a correspondingly indivisible strength and fervour. But the rich invention of the sonata is here far extended, and the lyric, harmonic and timbral density of the work communicates an immense sense of actuality. Barraqué's intractable grandiloquence achieves an awe-some depth: breathtakingly generous and yet recalcitrant — perhaps most so to any words of description.

One can understand the resistance such vision has encountered. But the insight and depth of the work make it regrettable that it has not been brought to Britain yet.

Patrick Ozzard-Low

AMVA/Petit
St John's

novel ways of expressing themselves than with what they had to say in the first place. Such an obsession with language meant that most of the pieces, at first hearing anyway, outstayed their welcome, none more so than Gerard Grisey's *Talao*. The first part of this the composer describes as "an implacable machine to produce the freedom which will emerge in the second part". Yes, there were little eruptions in the later stages, but neither rhyme nor reason seemed to rule their occurrence.

Of the rest, Charles Chaynes's *Lorsqu'il Cécile chantait*,

which took as its starting and closing points the last notes of Heneguer's *Jeune d'Arc au bucher*, showed an intuitive expressivity, while Luis de Pablo's *Dibujos* (without piano) contains some attractive, crystalline timbres. Dino Casati's *Aube 3*, which apparently exploits a technique the composer calls "polymeter", sounded rhythmically staid, its images oddly disparate.

But at least there were two works whose impetus kept interest alive, the microtonal *La Cité de l'eau*, by AMVA's director, Jean-Louis Petit, and Alain Gaussin's aggressive and mercifully brief *Eau-forte*. How about some good old Boulez next time, though?

Stephen Pettitt

pieces make the orchestra speak, make themes become characters and forms become stories. However, the Berlioz performance was not so wonderful, partly because the open scoring revealed considerable strain in the string tone, and partly because Mr Rattle's high speeds, though potentially exciting, did not always gain universal support.

The best things were in the sharp-featured qualities of sounds, particularly from the brass and bassoons, who sounded properly fat and fluty in the march to the scaffold and then massively jubilant in the finale, and also from the percussion, whose distribution around an upper tier favoured their terrifying aspect, both visual and sonorous.

Paul Griffiths

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ROCK

Luther Vandross
Hammersmith
Odeon

With Marvin Gaye dead, Smokey Robinson in semi-retirement and Stevie Wonder in an artistic limbo, Luther Vandross might fairly claim to be considered soul music's most accomplished male singer. Since his solo debut in 1981, he has worked at a deliberate pace to build a reputation that is about to give him his fifth platinum album in as many attempts. As is often the case, though, his success has been achieved despite a feeling that he has taken to repeating himself. On his latest album, *Give Me the Reason*, he shows no inclination to progress beyond the formula of less dance-tunes and baroque ballads which made such a powerful first impression on the classic *Never Too Much*.

Tuesday night's show, the first of eight sold-out engagements at the Odeon, mirrored the problem. Starting with a wallop of lights, noise and over-the-top costumes, the performance developed a misfire that became progressively more evident.

Despite Vandross's professed love of spontaneity, expressed in the programme notes, one felt strongly that nothing had been left to chance and that the remaining seven shows will take precisely the same shape. Oddly, since such performers usually milk their farewell, the encore was more perfunctory than the enthusiastic audience deserved, even bearing in mind that his patience had been sorely tried when one over-excited spectator twice interrupted the extended version of Bacharach and David's "A House Is Not a Home" with the blare of a compressed-air horn. It was greatly to Vandross's credit that such behaviour failed to unsettle his poised delivery of an arrangement devised to extend his voice to the furthest limits of its remarkable technique.

Sadly, the virtues of his fine band, so evident during his first British concerts four years ago, were obscured both by the emphasis on spectacle and by a sound-balance that reduced the wonderful drummer Yogi Horton to the role of a thunder-machine. Vandross himself has become a much more relaxed and assured performer since that first visit, losing some 120lb in the process. Now, perhaps, his musical conception could do with a similar overhaul.

Richard Williams



Nik Kershaw: serious intent

Nik Kershaw
Town and Country

Although only in his late twenties, there have been ominous signs of a mid-career crisis looming over Nik Kershaw since the release of last year's *Radio Moscow*, an ambitious album which scraped into the Top 50 for one week only and which yielded no hit singles. Only three years ago, the singer/guitarist from Ipswich was enjoying the first flush of success as a pop star with a string of hits that ensured him star billing at the Hammersmith Odeon.

But, if the show at the Town and Country Club was of modest proportions, there was no evidence of a musician in reduced artistic circumstances, and indeed Kershaw's performance gave every indication that he has been

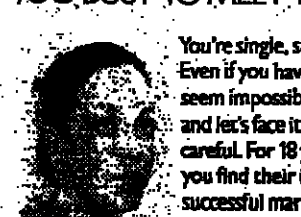
miscast as a teenybop idol (something his fair weather fans have already decided) and should more properly be bracketed with the likes of Go West or Level 42, whose work this band proves itself easily able to match.

Staging and presentation were of a very high order. Mark Price's drums and Gary Wallace's arsenal of percussion were set in two huge cages at either side, and the pair worked with ferocious intensity at building cascading rhythmic structures that looked armed with Dennis Smith's heavy funk bass patterns to create a vibrant foundation for Kershaw's powerfully sung melodies. Whether playing the slow, but eminently danceable, "L.A.B.A.T.Y.D." or the up-beat "Heart Beat", the spruce arrangements allowed Kershaw's swift liquid guitar breaks and Tim Moore's similarly incisive keyboard parts to spur the songs into winning home-straight, and even the old hit "I Won't Let the Sun Go Down on Me" was dramatically reworked into a version that was a vast improvement on the rather mundane original.

Soberly dressed, and almost painfully studious in his delivery, the crop-haired singer gave every appearance of a man with more serious intentions than those with which he has so far been credited. While one might carp about a lack of soul, or the sense of contrivance that burdened some of the melodies, Kershaw proved himself worthy of locating a better audience. Whether he will be able to do so is anybody's guess.

David Sinclair

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ENO

Charged debt is held on trust

Barclays Bank plc v Willowbrook International Ltd and Others
Before Lord Justice Fox, Lord Justice Dillon and Lord Justice Russell

[Judgment February 4]

Where an outstanding debt due to a company had been charged to a bank, the company held on a constructive trust for the bank moneys paid to it in respect of the debt.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment in allowing an appeal by Barclays Bank plc from the dismissal by Mr Justice Walton of a claim against Castle Hughes International Farms Ltd and Castle Hughes Farms Ltd.

Mr Neville Thomas QC and Mr David Ritchie for the bank; Mr Michael Brindle for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the Farm companies were two of a number of companies with which a Mr George Hughes was at the material time associated. Another of those companies was the first defendant in the action, Willowbrook International Ltd (International) which was now in receivership. There was also Willowbrook Ghana Ltd, incorporated in Ghana, in which International at the material time had a share interest. Mr Hughes was chairman of International. He was also chairman of the Farm companies.

There was also another company incorporated in Switzerland, Willowbrook AG, which was a subsidiary of International. It was in the events out of which the action had arisen. AG had an address at Zug in Switzerland and a Mr Lebe was its director.

In January 1982, International and a number of other companies controlled by Mr Hughes entered into a guarantee and debenture (the group debenture) in favour of the bank to secure all indebtedness of any such companies to the bank.

By the debenture each of the companies charged with the payment to the bank of all

moneys due from any of the companies all book debts and other debts due or owing to such company.

There was a covenant by each of the companies with the bank to pay into its account with the bank all moneys which it might receive in respect of the book and other debts thereby charged by it.

The debts so charged by International to the bank included debts due to International from the Ghana company.

In addition to the group debenture, the bank in June 1982 obtained a further security for International's indebtedness to it. The Farm companies executed mortgages in favour of the bank under the Farm companies mortgages.

Shortly thereafter, Mr Hughes succeeded in arranging with Ghanaian officials for a large part of the outstanding indebtedness of the Ghana company to International to be repaid.

He told the bank, and that required the payment of bribes to unnamed Ghanaian officials and that therefore the money would have to be routed through AG in Switzerland.

In fact, however, payment

was made from Ghana to Standard Chartered Bank, Leicester, by three tranches. On receipt of each tranche, a scheme was carried through by Mr Hughes and Mr Lebe, under which the amount received by Standard Chartered was paid, net of that bank's charges, to AG and AG drew a cheque in favour of Mr Hughes, allegedly on behalf of the Farm companies, which Mr Hughes indorsed in favour of International and International paid into its own overdraft account with Barclays.

It was plain that the purpose of the scheme was to use the moneys from the Ghana company, which were already charged to the bank, to redeem the bank's sub-mortgages in favour of the bank under the Farm companies mortgages.

The bank argued that the Farm companies paid the wrong person (assuming that they did make payments by the cheques indorsed by Mr Hughes), and therefore the sub-mortgages were not discharged and Farm companies were liable to pay again.

The judge rejected that argument and his Lordship agreed with him. The crucial point was that the moneys, if they were the Farm companies' moneys paid to the bank, reached the bank. It

did not matter that the bank did not know what was supposed to be happening.

The Lordships allowed the bank to amend its notice of appeal and also its pleadings to raise an issue which had not been canvassed below; namely, that a constructive trust for the bank attached to the Ghana moneys, subject to the proper charges of Standard Chartered, when those moneys reached Standard Chartered.

His Lordship was firmly of the view that as the outstanding debt due to International from the Ghana company had been specifically charged to the bank by the group debenture and as International had in the debenture expressly agreed to pay into its account with the bank all moneys which it might receive from that or any other book debt, International did hold each tranche of the Ghana moneys on a constructive trust for the bank, subject only to the proper charges of Standard Chartered, as each tranche of those moneys was received by Standard Chartered for the account of International.

His Lordship would allow the appeal and hold that the bank's sub-mortgages remained valid and subsisting securities for the repayment to the bank of the overdraft of International.

LORD JUSTICE RUSSELL and **LORD JUSTICE FOX** agreed.

Solicitors: Durrant Piesse, Berwin Leighton.

Valuer's duty of care to his client

Sutcliffe and Another v Sayer
Before Lord Justice Purchas and Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss
[Judgment February 3]

An estate agent, when making a valuation of a residential property, was neither negligent nor in breach of contract by failing to warn the prospective purchasers of the likely difficulties that would ensue in the event of their wishing to resell the property.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the plaintiffs, Mr and Mrs Harry Sutcliffe, from a decision of Judge Edward Jones in Southport County Court on July 2, 1986 refusing their claim for damages against the defendant, Mr J. Leslie Sayer.

Miss Jane Shipley for the plaintiffs; Mr Stuart Baker for the defendant.

MRS JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that in 1979 the plaintiffs sought the defendant's

advice on a property that they wished to purchase at Searisbrick as their retirement home. The defendant, who was a qualified surveyor, had been in business as an estate agent for many years.

He sent to the plaintiffs a report headed "Valuation". It contained details of the property and stated that it had "settled on the gable and there is dampness, which entails a new damp proof course". The report concluded that "taking into account the shortcomings we can recommend a purchase" and it placed a value of £8,650 on the property. Thereafter the plaintiffs went ahead with the purchase.

When the plaintiffs came to sell the house in 1982 due to Mr Sutcliffe's health, they failed to do so — it had been built on a substratum of peat that had caused the settlement. Such properties had proved difficult to sell.

The plaintiffs brought an action against the defendant for damages based on breach of contract and the giving of negligent advice.

The judge, dismissing their claim, found that the defendant had been asked only for a valuation and not a survey; the question was whether the plaintiffs' minds being whether the price was right and what defects, if any, would affect the price being asked.

The plaintiffs' criticism of the report was that it provided a misleading view of the very real defects of a house built on peat with obvious settlement and, moreover, that in advising them the defendant should have taken into account the prospect for resale.

But the report was a recommendation for the purchase of the house at the price put forward. There was no greater duty of care on the defendant other than to provide a valuation within acceptable limits taking into account the shortcomings and defects.

He had not been asked to advise on the house as an investment and that was not the plaintiffs' purpose in purchasing it. There was no duty on a valuer to warn a purchaser of the difficulties involved in any resale.

The judge had rightly found that the plaintiffs' purpose in seeking the defendant's report was to know if the price was right. It was reasonably accurate and the plaintiffs had not been misled. There was no breach by the defendant of the duty of care that he owed to them as a valuer and not as a qualified surveyor.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Park Nelson for Gordon & Co. Bradford, Mawdsley, Hadfield & Lloyd, Southport.

Land compensation based on date of first entry

Chilton v Telford Development Corporation
Before Lord Justice Purchas, Lord Justice Neill and Lord Justice Balcombe
[Judgment December 8]

For the purposes of calculating compensation for disturbance and interest on the purchase price payable to owners and occupiers of land which was the subject of a compulsory purchase order, the material date was the date of the first entry on to the land described in the statutory notice of entry.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by Mr A. R. H. Chilton from a decision of the Lands Tribunal who on April 1, 1985, determined a preliminary point of law in favour of the acquiring authority, Telford Development Corporation.

Mr Anthony Anderson QC and Mr Robert Fookes for Mr Chilton; Mr Robert Carnwath QC and Miss Alice Robinson for the acquiring authority.

LORD JUSTICE PURCHAS said that the acquiring authority made a compulsory purchase order in respect of 67.87 acres of agricultural land in Shropshire of which Mr Chilton was at all material times the owner and occupier.

On May 3, 1978 the authority served on him a notice of entry relating to the whole 67.87 acres but went into physical possession of individual parcels of that land on eight different dates over 28 months, the first date of entry being June 5, 1978.

The single member of the Lands Tribunal held that for the purposes of calculating compensation the authority should be treated as having taken possession of the land on each of the eight dates on which it took actual physical possession of individual parcels and not on the single date on which possession of the first parcel was taken.

The relevant legislation, namely section 12(1) of and paragraph 4 of Schedule 6 to the New Towns Act 1965 and section 11(1) of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965, did not give

a simple definitive answer to the two contending interpretations. The former Act had been repealed by the New Towns Act 1981, but the corresponding provisions were the same in most relevant particulars.

Choosing between the two approaches, the construction to be adopted was that which was favourable to the owner and occupier of the land, because the legislation, although incidentally dealing with calculation of compensation, was primarily enacted for the protection of such a person.

Paragraph 4 of Schedule 6 to the New Towns Act 1965 specifically required the acquiring authority when serving the statutory notices, to describe the land which it intended to enter and of which it intended to take possession. The construction contended for by the authority would merely defeat the object of that precaution which had been put in for the protection of the landowner and occupier.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL agreed, said that an acquiring authority might, if so minded, serve a series of notices of entry and could enter on to the land described in each of such notices in accordance with a programme which suited its requirements.

But where, as here, a single notice of entry was given, save perhaps where the *de minimis* rule applied, a subsequent entry on to the land, or any part thereof, was an entry made in accordance with the permissive power given in paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 6 to the New Towns Act 1965.

The first entry on to the described land constituted the entry foreshadowed by the statutory notice and the date of that entry was the time of entry for the purposes of the compensation provisions.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE agreed.

Solicitors: Treasures & Rivers, Wyatt, Gloucester; J.C.H. Bowdler & Son, Shrewsbury.

Accused tried to withdraw plea

Regina v Bow Street Stipendiary Magistrate, Ex parte Roche
Same v Same, Ex parte Riley

It was a proper exercise of a magistrate's discretion to reject an application to withdraw a plea of guilty made without the benefit of legal advice when the magistrate believed the application was made through fear of the imposition of a custodial sentence.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Mac-

pherson) so held on January 30 in dismissing an application for *certiorari* to quash the decision of Mr D. B. Roche, Bow Street Stipendiary Magistrate, on March 26, 1984, to refuse to allow two defendants, Kenneth Anthony Roche, aged 19, and David John Riley, aged 24, to change their plea. Roche was sentenced to 60 days detention in a centre and Riley to 60 days imprisonment.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said the two defendants, and one other who had not persisted in his application for judicial

review, pleaded guilty to assault occasioning actual bodily harm on a police constable during a football match at Trafalgar Square where football supporters had gathered following a Cup Final.

After plea, the magistrate put the case back to the defendants to see the duty solicitor as the magistrate was considering custodial sentences.

The magistrate was entitled to refuse the applications to withdraw the guilty pleas, expressing the view they were motivated by fear of custodial sentences.

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TEMPERING TIMES

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Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1472.8 (+14.3)FT-SE 100
1846.7 (+18.1)Bargains
37696 (38730)USM (Datastream)
141.69 (+0.27)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5240 (-0.0030)W German mark
2.7600 (+0.0106)Trade-weighted
68.5 (+0.2)£80 million
gas field
approved

The £80 million development of the Audrey offshore gas field was approved yesterday by the Department of Energy and first gas is expected to be delivered in October 1988.

Although fairly modest in size for a gas field, the development will include a 2,500 tonne platform and brings much needed work for the troubled British offshore supply industry.

Responsibility for final engineering design has been awarded to the new joint venture of Brown and Root Vickers Ltd. Tenders for the platform will be out soon and construction of the platform is expected to start in May.

The first construction contract has gone to Tumeric in Great Yarmouth for the drilling template and negotiations are nearing completion with British Steel for the well casings and the 10 development wells. A long-term drilling contract has been awarded to Reading and Bates.

Smooth deals

First Equity, a new company, set up to provide smoother dealings between the 26 leading equity market-makers in London, opens for business today. As an inter-dealer broker, it will enable the market-makers to trade with each other without divulging price-sensitive information when taking or unwinding positions in the 76 alpha stocks.

Buy in US

Heywood Williams, the fast-growing glass and window specialist, is expanding its activities in the US with a \$5.5 million (£3.7 million) purchase of a toughened glass processor, Tempered Glass Specialists, of Ohio. The move is the latest in a series of acquisitions in the US which have almost doubled the size of the group in recent years.

Dump change

The European Commission will propose changes to EEC anti-dumping rules in the next few days to stop Japan's car and video firms from bypassing duties by assembling Japanese components in Europe, Commission sources said yesterday. Japanese firms have invested heavily in such assembly operations in Britain.

Offer talks

Discussions are taking place which could lead to a recommended offer being made for Nottingham Brick. A further announcement is expected.

Pentland buys

Pentland Industries has purchased for investment purposes a 25 per cent stake in Gallini Group, a British leisurewear company.

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MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2175.48 (+7.03)
Dow Jones	19973.87 (+17.54)
Nikkei Dow	2836.83 (+30.25)
Hong Kong	280.11 (-0.5)
Amsterdams Gen	1512.9 (+10.4)
Sydney AO	1711.2 (-21.5)
Frankfurt	4016.82 (-16.74)
Commerzbank	413.9 (-2.6)
General	542.6 (-1.0)
Paris CAC	542.6 (-1.0)
Zurich S&K Gen	542.6 (-1.0)
London FT A	1846.7 (+18.1)
FT 30	1472.8 (+14.3)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	11%
3-month interbank	11-11.5%
3-month eligible bills	10-10.5%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	7.75%
Federal Funds	5.5%
3-month Treasury bills	5.5-5.55%
30-year bonds	9.75-9.8%

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£/\$	\$1.5240
£/DM	2.7600
£/Sfr	2.2000
£/FF	6.5500
£/Yen	163.00
£/A\$	0.6500
£/Esc	166.67
£/Lira	33.33

Panel looks into rescue operation

Bank probes
Standard bid

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

The Takeover Panel has begun inquiries into the circumstances surrounding the successful defence by Standard Chartered Bank against last year's £1.3 billion bid by Lloyds Bank.

At the same time, Standard invited the Bank of England to carry out an investigation under the banking Act into its defence of the bid.

The Panel has not launched a full scale investigation but is holding discussions with Standard on the details of how the defence was mounted. It is also believed to be in contact with Cazenove, the stock broker, which executed most of the buying of Standard shares towards the end of the bid.

Standard said yesterday that it had invited the Bank to investigate the matter in order to remove uncertainties in the shortest possible time. Section 17 of the Banking Act gives the Bank powers to appoint inspectors to investigate cases of misconduct.

The Bank yesterday welcomed the invitation to carry out an investigation. It said that it was important to have an independent verification of Standard's claims in relation to the bid.

Although the Panel was

kept closely informed of developments during the bid, information has recently emerged which may throw doubt on the way the "white squares" bought nearly 29 per cent of Standard as part of the defence.

Sir Y K Pao, the Hong Kong businessman, acquired 15 per cent, Mr Robert Holmes & Court, the Australian entrepreneur, bought 7.4 per cent and Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puat, the Singapore businessman, bought 5 per cent.

It emerged earlier this week that a credit facility worth £10 million was given to National Bank of Brunei in July, 1986, the month the bid lapsed. NBB was closely associated with Tan Sri Khoo, with 90 per cent of its loans made to Khoo business interests.

Standard has denied that it lent any money to Tan Sri Khoo during the bid and that a proposal to increase inter-bank facilities to NBB during the bid was rejected because it was deemed to be an associate of Tan Sri Khoo.

It is not clear at this stage whether the three main shareholders were acting together or separately. If the three men were acting together they did not acquire enough

shares to breach the 30 per cent level that would have triggered a required takeover bid under the Panel's rules.

Since the bid lapsed, Mr Holmes & Court has raised his stake to 10 per cent and Tan Sri Khoo now holds just above 6 per cent.

Meanwhile Lloyds Bank remains interested in Standard. It is eligible to bid again next July, unless another bidder emerges before then. Lloyds has let the permissions granted by US authorities to lapse.

But a spokesman pointed out yesterday that the situation had now changed completely and a different set of permissions would now be necessary. Lloyds has sold its Californian subsidiary since last year, while Standard has acquired United Bank of Arizona.

"We are standing by with all the necessary paperwork so that we can apply quickly if necessary," the spokesman said. The application process takes 90 days to complete.

The new doubts over Standard's position will not help morale in the bank which sank sharply after the bid.

There was discontent within the bank over lack of consultation.

Panel may press Guinness
to pay more for Distillers

The Takeover Panel is expected to consider recommending that Guinness should pay several million pounds to Distillers shareholders if it finds that a Guinness concert party broke the Takeover Code.

The Panel is currently restrained from launching its own investigation into breaches of the Takeover Code until the outcome of the Department of Trade inquiry is known.

It has already said that the failure to disclose the indemnity arrangements given in return for share price support to companies such as Heron

International are clear breaches of Rule 8.2 of the code.

It is also understood to be concerned about the number of parties who were either actively involved in breaches of the code or who knew about the breaches but remained silent.

The crucial provision as far as Guinness is concerned is Rule 6.2 of the code which relates to parties acting in concert with a predator company. If they buy shares in the target company paying above the value of the current offer for those shares, then the predator must increase its cash offer.

Rule 6.2 is likely to come into play with regard to the Distillers takeover battle if parties who received indemnities from Guinness or others supporting the bid such as Mr Ivan Boesky, the disgraced American arbitrator, bought Distillers shares above the Guinness offer price.

The Panel could then make retrospective rulings — such as insisting that Guinness pay the difference between the price they paid and that which they should have paid if the code had been obeyed. These rulings would be highly persuasive but not legally binding on the company.

Allebone
to double
its stores

By Ray Heath

The Allebone shoe retailing chain of Northamptonshire is aiming to more than double its number of shops, and is asking shareholders to pay for the move through a rights issue which will have a similar effect on its capital.

Early indications suggest the dash for growth will not be universally welcomed.

Allebone is paying the Ward White retailing group £11 million for 161 stores from its Focus footwear chain which will be added to its 101 stores.

The sales will mean the end of direct shoe retailing by Ward White, which owns the Halfords motor accessory chain, Payless do-it-yourself stores, Owen Owen department stores and Zodiac toy shops.

Shoe retailing profits have languished at about £2 million.

Allebone reported half-year losses up from £218,000 to £300,000 last October.

Now shareholders are being asked to put up about £10 million through a rights issue. Terms are nine new ordinary shares for every four held, and 15 new ordinary for every four 8.75 per cent convertible.

Yule makes £27m
'final bid' for BH

By Alison Eadie

Yule Catto, the chemicals, building products and plantations group, yesterday raised its bid for Barrow Hepburn, the chemicals and engineering company, by 37 per cent to £27.2 million and declared the new terms final.

Barrow unanimously rejected the higher offer as totally unacceptable. It repeated its earlier "serious concern" about the rise in Yule's share price and said it had again asked the takeover panel to investigate.

Yule's share price has risen from 246p at the start of the bid to 313p yesterday, up 13p on the day. Mr Alex Walker, chief executive of Yule, said there was nothing surprising in the rise as the company was attracting a re-rating.

Yesterday's rise was due to the City appreciating the commercial logic of the bid, he said.

Yule has altered the structure of its bid from cash and

convertible preference shares to cash and ordinary shares. It is offering five of its shares and 1500p for 43 Barrow shares, valuing Barrow at 71.4p a share. There is a full cash alternative at 65p a share. Barrow shares closed yesterday at 68p.

Major institutional shareholders of Barrow, who had objected to the convertible in the initial bid, said last night that it was much better to see more marketable equity offered.

Barrow continued to attack Yule's record claiming the company was exposed to high risk areas, particularly Malaysia, relied more on profits from associate companies than its own subsidiaries and had continued to buy plantations.

Mr Walker replied that Yule's investment in chemicals was far greater than Barrow's.

Profit without privatization for Renault

France's state flagship

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Renault, the last major bastion of Europe's state-owned motor industry, has been set on a course of more rapid recovery towards profitability but privatization has been ruled out for the foreseeable future.

Two months and a half after the murder of M Georges Besse, the Renault chairman outside his Paris home, the company has reaffirmed its intention to cut back its huge losses as a priority rather than increase its market shares. In the last three years Renault's losses have totalled more than £100 million.

But unlike the insistence of Mrs Thatcher that the Rover Group be sold into private hands as soon as possible, the French government has shown little interest in privatizing its nationalised car industry.

Mr Christian Simon, Renault's European export director, made clear the company's view that privatization was a political not a commercial question.

As the government's privatization programme has accelerated, he said, even those on the left-wing had been caught up in the belief that Renault could be a candidate for sale.

"But considering French history, the government will go through many other privatizations before Renault," he said. "The main objective now is to return to profitability."

The new Renault chairman, Mr Raymond Levy, former head of the Belgian state-owned steel company, Cockerill Sambre, has given a pledge to follow the policies of

certain to continue to be supported by the government.

The company recently received a further 2 billion francs (£333 million) equity injection from the government and is expected to announce soon that its 1986 losses have been cut by up to 75 per cent from 10.9 billion francs in 1985 to about 2.5 billion francs.

Renault's financial recovery, widely believed to have been understated by M Besse in order to win support from workers for the big redundancy programme, will, however, need to include a restructuring of its debt of 60 billion francs.

The redundancies were announced before Christmas and will mean the loss of 6,000 jobs in the company's main French car division to reduce the workforce to less than 71,000.

Meanwhile, Renault has set spectacular market share targets for 1987 in Europe, banking on increased productivity and its useful product range to increase volume and turnover.

M Simon said Renault expected to see sales stabilize in Britain where last year it sold 69,261 cars.



Unwelcome approach: Peake of Baker Perkins

Maxwell may bid
for Baker Perkins

By John Bell, City Editor

Mr Robert Maxwell's Holis group looks set to intervene in the planned £150 million merger of engineering groups Baker Perkins and APV.

Mr John Peake, chairman of Baker Perkins, revealed yesterday that Holis had made an approach to his company seeking financial information as a potential bidder but no discussions had been held and Mr Maxwell's company had not stated an intention to bid.

Mr Maxwell appeared to be interested only in Baker Perkins, said Mr Peake.

According to Stock Market sources, Holis has been building up a shareholding in the

Peterborough-based group which is now thought to be about 5 per cent of the equity. Under new rules announced by the Takeover Panel last Friday, Mr Maxwell will be obliged, on February 16, to disclose any shareholding in excess of 1 per cent.

Should Holis make an offer to Baker Perkins shareholders, it is unlikely to be welcomed by Mr Peake and his fellow directors. "It is difficult to imagine another company offering as attractive a partnership as APV," said Mr Peake.

No comment was available from Mr Maxwell yesterday. Maxwell looms, page 22

Dollar rises sharply on
growth and trade hopes

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The dollar rose strongly yesterday as dealers reassessed the outlook for the US economy. Signs of stronger growth and a forecast of an improvement in the trade balance boosted the currency.

The dollar also received some support from indications from Tokyo that Japan is attempting to keep up the momentum for a Group of Five meeting.

Sources in Japan suggested that officials from the Group of Seven countries — the UK, France, Germany, Japan, Italy and Canada — were meeting over the next few days to prepare the ground for this summer's world economic summit, could also discuss the setting up of an early Group of Five meeting.

The dollar rose comfortably above the key DM1.80 level against the German currency, helped by a reassessment of Tuesday's strong rise in US economic indicators and some weak economic data for Germany.

It rose by more than a penny to DM1.8110 and was later quoted in New York at DM1.8140.

The pound lost ground against the dollar, but was strong against other currencies. It fell by 30 points

to \$1.5240 against the dollar, but rose by 1.5 pence to DM2.7573. The sterling index rose by 0.2 to 68.5.

Employment growth in Germany slowed in December and one of the West German research institutes, HWVA, is lowering its growth forecast for 1987. Friday's employment figures in the US are the next big hurdle for the dollar.

Mr Beryl Sprinkel, the chairman of President Reagan's Council of Economic Advisers, predicted a substantial improvement in US trade over the next few months.

Fairfax
starts
H&WT
auction

From Richard Battley, Sydney

An extraordinary 24-hour public auction of television and radio stations owned by the Herald & Weekly Times group ends early today.

The auction was announced by the H&WT board after it received an Aus\$385 million (£167.4 million) offer yesterday for its broadcasting assets from John Fairfax, the Sydney-based media group. The offer is Aus\$15 million more than News Limited has contracted to sell them.

News Limited, which has beneficial ownership of more than 56 per cent of H&WT's register, has bid Aus\$2.3 billion for H&WT. Fairfax, its rival, has offered Aus\$2.5 billion.

On Tuesday, News Limited, the Australian arm of News Corporation, scored a tactical victory by securing an adjournment of the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal, which is examining the legality of the acquisition by News Limited of H&WT's electronic media.

The tribunal postponed its hearing after being told that the H&WT board was to consider yesterday ratifying the proposed sale of those assets by News Ltd to Perth entrepreneurs Mr Robert Holmes & Court and Mr Kerry Stokes.

The broadcasting watchdog — which is inquiring as to whether News Ltd is controlled by Mr Rupert Murdoch, chief executive of News Corporation — will sit again tomorrow.

Under Australia's broadcasting laws, a foreigner is prevented from owning more than 15 per cent of TV or radio stations. Australian-born Mr Murdoch, who is not a director of News Ltd, is a United States citizen. He has said publicly that neither he nor News Corporation controls the bid vehicle.

Fairfax's offer yesterday further confused the complicated H&WT takeover battle and analysts here believe that Fairfax, realizing that News Ltd will be the victor, is making an eleventh-hour bid to create a national television network.

There were two other developments yesterday. First, the Adelaide Stock Exchange said that Advertiser Newspapers Ltd, a H&WT associate company, had "inadvertently and technically" breached listing requirements by accepting the News Ltd bid for its 12 per cent holding in H&WT without prior approval from its shareholders.

The parcel was worth more than Aus\$275 million. The exchange ruled, however, that no action would be taken.

Secondly, the National Companies & Securities Commission called on News Ltd to announce today whether it would extend its bid for H&WT.

SE split
over
'world'
market

By Lawrence Lever

A huge internal row is brewing at the Stock Exchange over plans for the Exchange to formulate a market for trading in international equities, shares traded internationally on more than one market.

The row centres upon two controversial proposals advocated by Mr Alan Nash, chairman of the Stock Exchange's foreign equity markets committee.

Mr Nash, who works for the London office of the American broker Paine Webber, wants the Exchange to allow market-makers who have no presence in the United Kingdom to have access to the international equities market which the Exchange is formulating.

He is also understood to advocate that the market for international stocks should be kept separate from the Exchange's market for domestic stocks — in other words, United Kingdom stocks in which there is little or no foreign interest.

Mr Nash's proposals have however angered a number of prominent figures in the Stock Exchange, including senior Council members and leading members of other Stock Exchange committees.

They are set to oppose his first proposal on the grounds that allowing purely overseas firms access to the Stock Exchange's new market for international securities would weaken the Exchange's regulatory and monitoring role.

The opponents also believe that the difference in settlement procedures in different countries would make Mr Nash's proposals unworkable.

They will therefore insist that anyone wanting access to the market must set up at least an office in the United Kingdom and that office must join the Stock Exchange.

Several large American financial institutions such as Merrill Lynch, Salomon Brothers and Goldman Sachs have already done this.

The second idea — that the international and domestic markets be effectively separated — will also meet opposition. The opponents say that the point of last year's historic link up between the Exchange and the International Securities Regulatory Organisation (Isro) was to provide a unified market and avoid the fragmentation of markets that would occur if Isro members set up a market for international securities as it had originally proposed.

A software problem at one of the Stock Exchange's two main SEAQ computers resulted in indicative rather than firm prices for 15 minutes yesterday, as all market-makers were switched on to the functioning computer. The Exchange was last night investigating the cause of the fault.

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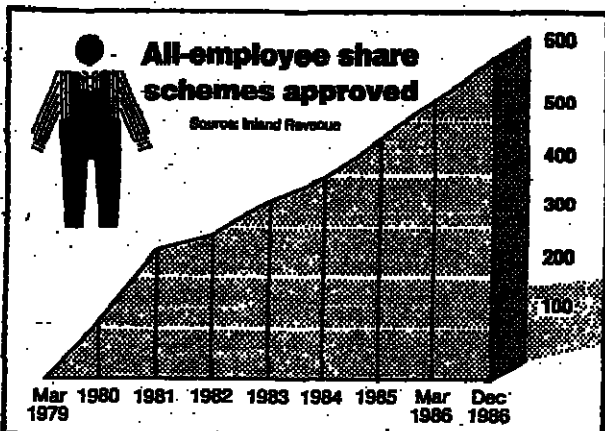
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السؤال الثاني

ECONOMIC VIEW

Shoulders behind success should have a cash balm

Profit-related pay can fulfil the priority for a national commitment to healthy business among employees



Budgets tend to be remembered, if at all, not for the level of borrowing or monetary growth proposed but for changes which in the longer run make markets work better or industry more efficient.

When the dust has settled on what the Chancellor does on March 17 about wider share ownership and profit-related pay may be more important than the precise balance of financial caution and electoral appeal which he adopts.

The consultative document on profit-related pay (PRP) published in July has had a mixed reception. Few have spoken against the principle. Management is generally all in favour of linking rewards more closely to performance. And union leaders have been careful not to dismiss the idea out of hand, not least because they realise the attractions to many of their members.

But if the principle is akin to motherhood the practice raises a lot of problems. The idea, as set out by Government following the ideas of Martin Weitzman of Harvard, is to pay a significant proportion of an employee's pay in the form of a share in the profits of the firm.

While the major part of the pay packet would continue to be paid in the form of a fixed wage, there would be a profit-related element which would fluctuate either up or down in line with the profitability of the enterprise.

Proponents of PRP believe that not only would this lead to closer identification of the workforce in the fortunes of the business for which they worked but it would make it

easier also both to avoid sacking workers when business turned down and to take on new workers.

The cost to the business of the newcomers would be reduced because part of their remuneration would come out of a fixed pool of profit to be shared out among all workers both new and existing.

In its formal response to the Green Paper the Confederation of British Industry gave a warning that while it strongly supported the objective of linking pay and performance more closely, consultations with members suggested there would be no widespread take-up of a scheme on the lines set out by the Government.

In many cases industrial relations were too delicate to risk the probable tensions of proposing variable remuneration. There were accounting — and industrial relations — problems in seeking to link pay to performance in different subsidiaries of a single group. And there was a danger that in practice, profit-sharing schemes would be additional to existing pay rather than replacing part of it.

Given these problems, how big an advantage does PRP offer over ways of giving employees a stake in the firm such as employee share schemes?

Professor Paul Groot of Bristol University and the Centre for Economic Policy Research, who has made a study of PRP and wider share

ownership, believes that in practice employee share schemes offer many of the benefits of profit-sharing over the longer term with few of the problems.

In theory, employee share schemes should influence employee behaviour in a similar way to PRP. The more shareholder employees bid up wages the less will be available to distribute as dividends. Pressure for higher pay will therefore be lower than it would have been otherwise and, as a result, the marginal cost of taking on new workers will be reduced just as with PRP.

The difference is that with employee shareholdings the lower marginal cost of taking on a new worker will not be seen to be at the expense of existing workers. One of the most telling criticisms of PRP is that workers in a profit-sharing scheme will do their best to block the company taking on new workers. The reason is that the initial effect of adding to the workforce is likely to dilute the profit share of existing workers.

If a company has £25 million of profit to distribute between 10,000 workers, unless the new workers are as productive as the old they will each receive a little less if the £25 million has to be shared between 10,500.

There is generally a qualifying period before new employees can join share ownership schemes. So new workers will

effectively be taken on at a lower level of remuneration than existing workers, only qualifying later for the full remuneration package including the shareholder benefits. The same result could be achieved for profit sharing schemes by deferring eligibility for participation in profits.

There are, of course, some important advantages of PRP over employee share schemes. A much larger proportion of a PRP remuneration package is likely to be profit-related. Pay can go down as well as up, protecting employment in times of business adversity.

And profit-sharing can be applied to unincorporated businesses which share schemes cannot.

Probably there is a case for giving a fair wind to both. Although the CBI's response has been lukewarm it is difficult to anticipate in advance how people will react to new circumstances. The privatisation programme, for instance, was written off by the experts to start with as absurdly over-ambitious.

Very likely the debate over PRP itself has done a good deal to stir interest in the subject. But having raised the possibility of tax relief not to introduce some fiscal incentive now would kill interest stone dead. Unless the Government is quite clear that PRP is unworkable, which it can hardly be at this stage, it should go ahead on an experimental basis, drawing the limits of tax relief as widely as its Inland Revenue minders will countenance.

The Government has already done a good deal to promote employee share ownership improving the tax privileges of all-employee schemes and introducing a generous executive share incentive scheme in 1984.

As a result the number of all-employee schemes, adding in the SAYE type introduced in 1980, had grown by the end of last year to 1201 covering more than 1.4 million employees. If money can be found also for a further boost in this area that would help to ensure that momentum does not slacken. There can hardly be a more important priority than increasing the national commitment to business success. A more direct financial participation by employees has a crucial part to play.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

Turning the spotlight from jobless to jobs

The unemployment figures have been blurred so much by statistical changes that — beyond helping Mrs Thatcher to decide the date of the election — they are not much value in the political argument. Disputes over the figures are merely likely to confuse the voters.

The debate may well now switch from unemployment to employment as a test of economic policies. Here, at least, the figures are now more accurate than before. In the new issue of the *Employment Gazette*, the revision of figures in the light of the 1984 census of employment figures has been carried all the way back to 1959, allowing some reasonably accurate statements to be made about the Government's full record (not forgetting that of its predecessors).

The new figures show that in September, employers still had 1.5 million fewer people on their books than in June 1979, but that the ranks of the self-employed have grown by a startling 850,000 to 2.7 million, so that what statisticians call the employed labour force has fallen by a much more modest 650,000.

The good thing about this is the creation of jobs since the trough of the depression at the start of 1983, some 550,000 in self-employment and

570,000 by employers. This is the sharpest rise for many a long year.

The bad news is that this rise is skewed. For instance, employers still have fewer people on their books than at the 1983 trough, so that even the recovery has not produced a positive trend here. It is an unfortunate commentary on the weakness of the British economy that employment peaked back in 1966, and did not quite manage to regain that level at the end of the post-Opec recovery in 1979, despite the rapid growth in numbers available for work.

The rise in self-employment is extremely valuable for an economy that had been noticeably lacking in this flexible sector compared to other countries. No doubt, more sensible taxation has played a part here but self-employment, while improving the workings of the economy, is probably not best seen as a one-for-one substitute for employed jobs.

The political argument over jobs should surely now be about which policies are likely to reverse the economy's inability to create jobs over the past 20 years. A retreat to the policies of the late sixties or seventies does not look an obviously promising candidate.

More water in the tunnel

Although the Channel Tunnel Bill is now through its report stage in the Commons and, a general election permitting, is firmly on course for the Royal Assent, the project itself faces heavy weather. The search is definitely on for a successor, as the British joint chairman, Lord Pennock but if it is not to be Sir Nigel Brookes, the best choice among the existing directors, where will the right man come from?

He needs to be enthusiastic about the scheme, an able and experienced communicator, well versed in Whitehall's little ways and young enough (no more than in his very early fifties) to have the vigour and the expectation of life to see the tunnel completed in 1993 or probably later.

His baleful legacy will include the extraordinary achievement of turning an exciting and challenging project into a monumental public bore in less than a year and the feeling that the British way of doing things will ensure that the tunnel will be constructed neither on time nor at anything remotely like the estimated cost.

In addition there is a cynical view that Eurotunnel's lack of credibility arises fundamentally from the attitude of the original board and their City advisers. The tunnel vision of which they are now accused made them focus only on the profits that were to be made, legitimately, from work in preparing for and

building the tunnel, and large fees for advising on and arranging the financing. The means were the thing, rather than the end — the tunnel itself.

Public perceptions can be changed — indeed they have to be if the tunnel is to have a real chance — but that is unlikely to happen if the next phase is not handled adroitly and with conviction. The project is about to come under increasing fire on technical and safety grounds and doubts are multiplying about the availability of equity, and therefore on loan, financing.

The Government agreed in the Commons to close a loophole through which public money might have been channelled into the tunnel (British Rail, which has a vested interest in the tunnel and is dependent on state subsidies), and thus reemphasised its total commitment not to put a penny of taxpayers' money into the scheme. The firmest ally Eurotunnel has is the Bank of England whose velvet glove, wrapped around a Thatcher iron hand, will caress and cajole the City into raising our share of the financing.

But if the wider public is to swallow the shares, the deal will have to be made really attractive and this can hardly be done unless the terms of the last equity issue, the £206 million placing last October, are changed to provide more room for manoeuvre. The bankers and brokers are going to have to earn their corn.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Insecure in securities

Lloyds Bank has asked two of its senior gits dealers to leave. The two men, Philip Foster and Paul Brind, both on six figure salaries, were told last week that "there was no longer a continuing role for them to play" at Lloyds. Lloyds' gits department, which was started from scratch in 1985 in readiness for Big Bang on October 27 last year, has been losing money continuously. "But the losses are no greater than we anticipated — we never expected it to be profitable during the first year or two," says Bob Openshaw, managing director of the gits team. "We are aiming to make a profit in 1989." Lloyds gives no concrete reason for the departure of the two top men except to say that "a review of our first year led us to conclude that we could operate it more efficiently with only 10 dealers instead of 12." Both men are now looking for new employers, an experience Foster is no stranger to. In June 1980, Wedd & Owen, a small gits jobber where he was a senior partner, went out of business, blaming the volatility of government securities and rising costs.



Gorilla war

Martin Jay, younger brother of our former man in America, Peter Jay, has been busy sticking press cuttings of hunky sailors over the walls of his Lynton office. A healthy, red-blooded male, Jay is managing director of USM-quoted Lewmar, which manufactured the winches, hydraulics and riggings for 13 of the 19 yachts in the America's Cup, at an average cost of £200,000 a piece. The boats it supplied included the winning *Stars and Stripes* and runner up *Kookaburra III*. Newspapers and television channels all over the world have carried photographs of beefy males — known as "gorillas" in the yachting world — operating Lewmar's winches. "It's been marvelous publicity," says Jay, "and if the talk in Australia is true — that the next America's Cup in 1990 will have twice as many new boats — it should be good for orders over the next two to three years."

● Fate can be unkind. Two directors of a £1.8 million Business Expansion Scheme for an hotel in Devon called the *Portledge* bear the unfortunate name of Trenchard and John Pine-Coffin.

Family firm

After an absence of almost 20 years, a member of the Costain family is at last back at the helm of the family building and mining firm, Costain Group. Peter Costain, aged 48, great-grandson of the company's founder, Richard Costain, and its chief executive for the past seven years, has been lined up to become the most senior executive manager of the group after the retirement of its present chairman, Mr Terrell West. In July, Sir Geoffrey Messervy is to become non-executive chairman. Peter Costain is now the only member of the family still involved with the firm. His father, Sir Albert Costain, MP for Folkestone and Hythe until 1983, retired as chairman in 1969.

Shy of retiring

Sir Charles Troughton, a pillar of WH Smith's boardroom for 28 years and Chaucer's *verray parfit gentil knight* if ever I met one, has a rule about directors which ought probably to be universally applied: they should not continue after 70 (give or take a year). Early in his business career an annual meeting was drowning in its close when one sprightly shareholder rose to his feet. "Mr Chairman," he asked, "before Lord De L'Isle rises to propose his usual obsequious vote of thanks to the board — may I ask all directors over the age of 70 to stand?" Not one got to his feet. "They all had their hands cupped to their ears," Troughton recalls, "muttering to each other 'what did he say, what did he say?' He made up his mind then that 70 was the age to say goodbye to the boards. Now 70 himself, youthful as well as wise, he remains, as in all things, true to his convictions."

Carol Leonard

TEMPUS

L and N will live to fight another day

Like a medieval king, Jock MacKenzie built up his kingdom by leaving fiefdoms in the hands of the potentates from whom they were acquired. However, although initially a sound strategy, London and Northern found it difficult to keep its barons in check and the group lost momentum.

The purchase in 1983 of a Middle Eastern healthcare business was intended to tide the group over. L and N knew the region well and saw little difference between organizing the building of a bridge and organizing the management of a hospital.

However, the threat of a costly court case, subsequently settled, coupled with an outstanding debt of at least £25 million, both associated with the healthcare business, left L and N vulnerable.

Peter Earl, blooded by a skirmish with Exel last year and backed by a colourful band of supporters, stepped in to offer £1p in cash or shares in each of the four demerged companies.

The offer allows no premium for the potential of L and N's businesses — most analysts' calculations value the business at over £20p. In addition, the logic behind Demerger's proposals falters when one discovers that the management of L and N will remain virtually unchanged.

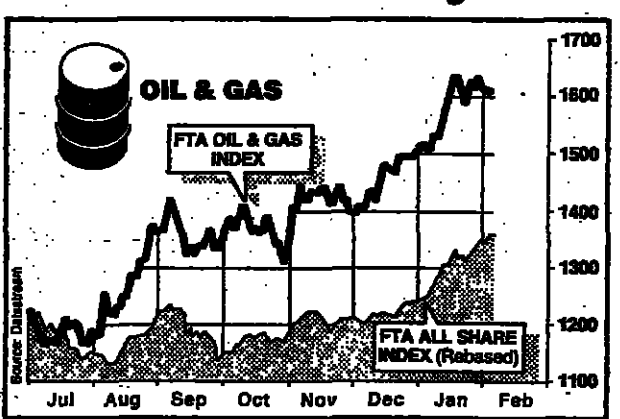
Indeed, L and N had already recognized the need to divest peripheral businesses, reduce gearing and restructure the group. However, the results of these moves will not come through immediately.

A defence document from L and N is expected this weekend. It is likely to skirt round the subject of a 1984/87 profit forecast so analysts forecasting between £3 and £9 million may be disappointed. Instead, the document will concentrate on the prospects of the group thereafter.

Despite the anti-conglomerate sentiment currently in the air, Earl and his associates are unlikely to sway 90 per cent of L and N's shareholders. However, jaded supporters of L and N should take heart from the fact that this encounter will have the effect of sharpening up L and N's performance. If not, a more conventional bidder may emerge and have greater success.

Oil sector

Since Opec agreed to new production quotas last autumn the performance of oil shares has been quite breathtaking.



But the time has now come to question whether this outperformance can continue. Opec's unity, reinforced by a certain amount of support from some non-Opec exporters has taken the oil price from just over \$14 a barrel to over \$18 a barrel.

Norway, Oman, Egypt, Mexico, Malaysia even the Soviet Union have all pledged support. The amounts are small in the context of total supply, but the effect on Opec morale and market confidence should not be underestimated.

Some observers estimate that collective Opec output is now as low as 16.5 million b/d, not far above the 15.8 million barrel ceiling.

This has coincided with a spell of exceptionally cold weather among the consuming nations. As a result, stocks may be being drawn down by as much as 2.5 or even 3 million barrels a day — although the exact amount depends on how much Opec cheating is going on.

Cheating does not matter much when demand is seasonally high. When it will matter is in the spring, when demand hits the seasonal low. The question now is not so much whether the oil price will go higher, but rather whether it might not fall a little over the next few months.

So long as Opec can carry on as it is doing now the oil price is unlikely to fall by more than a dollar or two. But a flat or weak oil price will put the lid on further outperformance of oil share prices.

British Petroleum and Shell may not suffer too much. Their yields are good, while their refining and marketing activities offer a cushion against falling oil prices.

BP's exposure to high-cost Alaskan oil makes it look rather more vulnerable than Shell. But BP yields more, 6.4 per cent against Shell's 5.6 per cent.

It is the pure exploration companies which will feel the

draught if there is any hint of oil price weakness, or loss of confidence in Opec's ability to continue to restrain production the risks look greater than the rewards at present, and their shares should be avoided for the next few months.

Union Discount

There were doubts last year when Union Discount withdrew from the list of market makers in the gilt-edged market. But its figures for the full year triumphantly vindicate that decision and should silence the sceptics, at least for the short term.

Union saved the £15 million it would have incurred had it gone to market making operating as a broker-dealer. It is now not obliged to make markets but can job in and out when and how it chooses. Union knows this game well and has capitalized spectacularly.

Group profits soared to £10.8 from £1.1 million last year. Shareholders' disclosed funds jumped from £66.4 million to £74.7 million.

Undoubtedly, the figures owe much to favourable conditions in the gilt market. But Union has surely done itself a favour in giving itself more resources with which to operate and in not distracting itself with the struggle going on among the primary gilt market-makers. Competition there is fierce and only a threefold boost in turnover looks like averting the much-anticipated bloodbath.

The sheer size of Union's profit this year also underlines how volatile its earnings still are. In traditional discount house style, it is trying to spread its sources of earnings with a more positive move into futures broking, leasing and foreign bond trading.

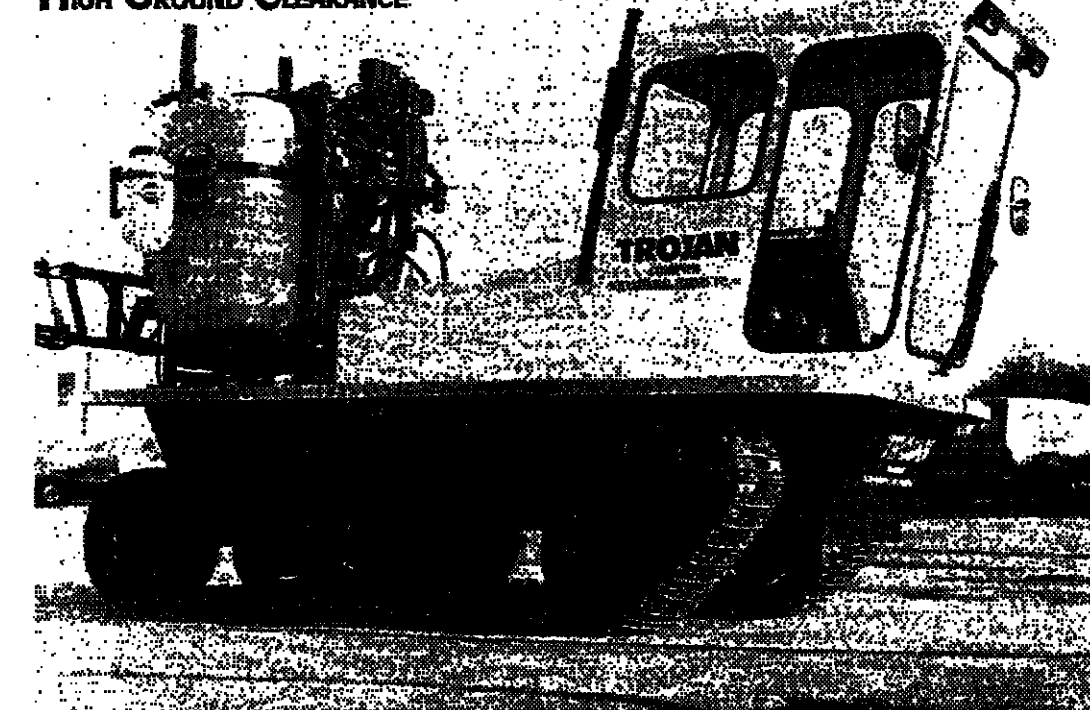
In the meantime, the group feels last year's performance has given it a big enough cushion to be magnanimous. In a move to smooth out interim and final dividends, it has said that this year's interim will be 17p.

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No.	Company	Group	Cash	Div
1	Waddington (J)	Paper, Print, Adv	10	10
2	Standard Diffusion	Electricals	10	10
3	Cant (A) & Sons	Property	10	10
4	SNIA BPD	Chemicals, Plastics	10	10
5	Warner	Property	10	10
6	Cap & Consett	Property	10	10
7	Tro Top Dna	Property	10	10
8	Bass	Property	10	10
9	Alphamec	Electricals	10	10
10	Hickson	Chemicals, Plastics	10	10
11	Abbott Mead	Paper, Print, Adv	10	10
12	Beard (Wm)	Industrial A-D	10	10
13	Archife	Building, Roads	10	10
14	Manganese Bronze	Industrial L-R	10	10
15	Apriol Computers	Electricals	10	10
16	Lon & Edin Ltd	Property	10	10
17	Medimiser	Leisure	10	10
18	High Estates	Property	10	10
19	BEY Ltd	Industrial A-D	10	10
20	Glass Glover	Food	10	10
21	Marks & Spencer	Property	10	10
22	Courts (Pam) A	Property	10	10
23	Lucas	Motor, Aircraft	10	10
24	Reeswood	Industrial A-D	10	10
25	Samuelson Gp	Leisure	10	10
26	Addison Cons	Paper, Print, Adv	10	10
27	Stanley Leisure	Leisure	10	10
28	Cassins	Property	10	10
29	Ford Motor	Motor, Aircraft	10	10
30	FR Group	Motor, Aircraft	10	10
31	Tesco	Food	10	10
32	Reckitt & Colman	Industrial L-R	10	10
33	Magnet & South	Building, Roads	10	10
34	Vickers	Industrial S-Z	10	10
35	Arden	Electricals	10	10
36	Stentley	Industrial S-Z	10	10
37	East Leisure	Leisure	10	10
38	Goring, Kew	Industrial E-K	10	10
39	Sybert & Pitt	Industrial S-Z	10	10
40	Alcon	Industrial S-Z	10	10
41	Brifley Inv	Industrial A-D	10	10
42	Broken Hill	Industrial A-D	10	10
43	Tomkins (FH)	Industrial S-Z	10	10
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Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	WEEKLY

BRITISH FUNDS

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SHORTS (Under Five Years)

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a Ex dividend, a Cum dividend, b On stock split, c Ex stock split, d On any two or more of above, e Ex all two or more of above, f Death of insured, g Dividend, h Dividend, i Wednesday, j Thursday, k Friday, l Saturday, m Sunday, n 22nd of month, o 21st and 22nd of month, p 22nd and 23rd of month, q 23rd of month, r 24th of month, s 25th of month, t Tuesday of month, u 25th 1st and 2nd of month, v 26th of month, w Thursday of month, x 4th Thursday of month, y 21st Wednesday of month, z 1st day of month, aa 18th of month, ab 1st working day of month, ac 22nd of month of month, ad 1st day of February, May, August, November, e 1st day of month, f 15th of month, g 16th of month, h 21st of month, i 28th of month, j Wednesday of month, k 31st of month, l Last Thursday of month, m Last Thursday of month, n Last Thursday of Stock Exchange account, o Last day of month, p 22nd and 23rd of month, q 23rd of month, r 24th of month, s 25th of month, t 25th 1st and 2nd of month, u 26th of month, v 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THE TIMES

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

February 5, 1987

This month the university recruitment programme reaches its climax. Soon the last buffet supper will have been eaten, the final glass of "red, white, beer or a soft drink?" will have loosened the last tongue, and polite attention to presentations and speeches can be abandoned to the serious business of preparing for finals.

For those who are not already fixed up there are still the final interviews and hoped-for job offers plus the task of deciding which to accept — perhaps a student's most important decision to date. Recruiters on the other hand will be anticipating two nail-biting months of waiting for their chosen to say yes or no and some of the less scrupulous may be trying to force quick decisions by "golden hellos" or other come-ons. These should be resisted in the interests of objective decision-making.

This year's "milk round", the annual mating ritual between employers and our most highly educated young people, has never been so competitive, nor for many years so favourable to the graduate. Ironically, with unemployment still sadly over three million, there is a shortage of top-quality graduates especially in the overpopulated South-East.

Many regret that the greatest increase in demand is from the service sector and mourn the decline in manufacturing industry and the reducing interest in teaching. The former reflects both the changing nature of the UK economy and much of industry's relative inability to offer outstanding career prospects. Shortages for teaching must also be partly due to uncertain prospects and may be even more serious. However, in time the ebb and flow of market forces will correct these potentially damaging weaknesses and parts of the service sector may lose their current glitter.

Nevertheless, many of today's graduates will start their careers in service industries and have a wealth of opportunity and choice. They must also choose how to build a firm foundation to a career that has to last 30 or 40 years and should certainly plan to avoid being left high and dry by that ebb and flow of the labour market.

Career decisions are like investment decisions. You can go for high income or capital growth but can seldom achieve both. For most of us our career is probably our most valuable capital asset and needs to be constructed carefully if it is to yield a lifetime's income. The memory of a Porsche at 25 will be small consolation if

Regard your career decisions as if they were your financial investments and look for long-term growth, says Richard Shervington



you are running a second-hand banger at 50.

For continuing success into an uncertain future today's graduates will need to demonstrate some key attributes.

First, competence in their chosen field and a range of business skills that are credible and transferable. Management ability must be developed as without it you can only harness your own efforts to the tasks ahead. Ability to communicate and to work in a team are important in developing an understanding of what motivates people. Flexibility and capacity for change will be essential in an increasingly fast, international and technological world.

So too will be a variety of experience which broadens perspectives and develops judgment: nothing is sadder than the middle manager claiming 10 years' experience when all he has is one year repeated 10 times!

These are some of the factors which are crucial to a lasting career investment and, for a business career, it still seems to me that nothing provides them better than (you've guessed it) chartered accountancy.

What about careers in other financial services? High rewards in the City must be very tempting but few really believe they can last for ever. As most people are trained to cope with the demands

of sophisticated new systems their value must inevitably decline.

Technology has dramatically increased the velocity of money and now provides the means for very rapid, global dealing. One million pounds traded in London has a ripple effect and many other deals follow. This gives the illusion that the initial million is a great deal more, but it is still only one million pounds — from which everybody handling it takes a cut.

I'm no economist but this seems rather like a new form of "pass the parcel" with £10 notes as the wrapping paper and a ticking time bomb as the prize. Perhaps that is why one never meets an old trader! There must also be doubts as to whether some of the new financial conglomerates can develop true independence.

Management consultancy is another increasingly popular career choice. Some consultancy-based consultancies provide training for graduates who wish to work as computer consultants, and many consultancy trainees move into consultancy after qualifying.

However, some consultancy firms offer graduates seemingly glamorous opportunities as research assistants sometimes followed by a Master of Business Administration degree. I am sceptical as to whether their initial

training will prove as valuable in the long term as that provided by the accountancy firms or indeed their own consultancy practices.

Certainly accountants have the opportunity to develop the professional skills, management ability and capacity for change that I referred to earlier. And they can do so in a numerate, financial, technological and international environment in which communication is vital. Our young people have a great deal of sense and some 6,000 student accountants every year, a continuing 10 per cent of graduates who take jobs, can't all be wrong.

Those numbers should destroy any lingering myths that accountancy is boring. It isn't. Anybody who is bored by working in 20 or more different businesses over three years and really seeing how they operate would be bored by anything. Moreover, the job satisfaction in helping to manage and utilize effectively the nation's wealth is just as great, and just as useful, as creating that wealth initially.

Indeed, the value of accountancy training can be seen every year as the newly qualified accountants start what is effectively their second career milk

round. Once again their options are broad and they are courted by industry, commerce, financial services and management consultancies, not to mention the firms that have trained them and want them to continue developing their careers in general practice, consultancy, taxation or insolvency.

That they can choose to do these things almost anywhere in the world is an added bonus and an opportunity to strengthen the launching pad for their future career.

Many of this year's 6,000 still have a choice to make — which firm? My colleagues and I have already said our piece around the campuses. It is not an easy choice as even the big international firms vary considerably. Differences abound in the approach to training, experience, internationalism, career opportunities and capacity for growth, not to mention differences in atmosphere and style.

To understand those differences you must ask questions, not only of trainees but also of the policy-makers. Get behind the glossy brochures and recruiters' smiling faces. It's your choice, you have a right to know. Good luck.

Richard Shervington is national recruitment partner of leading chartered accountants Price Waterhouse

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Male or female candidates should submit in confidence a comprehensive c.v. or telephone for a Personal History Form to M. Stein, HOGGETT BOWERS plc, 1/2 Hanover Street, LONDON, W1R 9WB, 01-734 6852, quoting Ref: 8032/T.

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Business Time System Limited markets a series of high quality self management training courses and time management systems. The company's clients are large organisations in the private and public sectors. Since its introduction to the UK, sales have grown rapidly and to spearhead further growth a number of key positions are available, reporting to the Director of Sales & Business Development.

Ref. MTC: Management Training Consultants

To prepare and present training seminars, and develop additional business with existing and potential clients. Applicants will possess stamina, very high enthusiasm and well-developed presentation skills complemented by a flair to identify and develop new business opportunities. At least 5 years recent experience and a proven track record in training middle and senior level managers is essential.

Ref. BDC: Business Development Consultants

To identify and develop new client business for training seminars to meet high revenue targets. Applicants will possess well-developed negotiation and interpersonal skills and have the ability to present and sell the concept and benefits of self and time management training to middle and senior level managers in both line and staff functions. At least 5 years recent experience in selling training, consultancy or related services is essential.

Applicants for the above career opportunities should be graduates aged between 30 and 40 with relevant experience gained with successful organisations. A clean driving licence and a willingness to travel away from home extensively are essential requirements. An excellent salary and benefits package including company car, BUPA, permanent health insurance and first class contributory pension scheme will be provided. Please send your application, full CV, salary history and home telephone number, quoting the appropriate reference to:

Jack Berkov, Director of Sales & Business Development,
Business Time System Limited, 40 West Street, Marlow, Bucks SL7 2NB

Business
Time/system

Organising the way to greater business success.



Wilkinson's

Here's an outstanding opportunity to join one of the U.K.'s leading incoming destination management companies specialising in the incentive travel and corporate conference markets.

We are looking for an ACCOUNT MANAGER who is personable, can work under the minimum of supervision, and is endowed with an abundance of confidence and common sense.

The likely candidate will have a thorough knowledge of the industry and will probably be working in a corporate travel department or an incentive/conference company.

Applicants must be committed, have a methodical approach and be familiar with the entire travel process through planning proposals, to negotiation, costing, contracting, administration and eventually overseeing the programme operation. A minimum 2 years experience in this specialist field is preferred combined with a smart appearance and the ability to liaise with suppliers and clients at all levels. Knowledge of Wang word processing or similar would also be an advantage.

In return for a total commitment to the job, and being able to cope with somewhat irregular hours, the right person will be offered a remuneration package which includes a competitive salary (negotiable - according to age and experience), smart free uniform, BUPA, good career prospects and immense job satisfaction.

If you feel you measure up and have a real desire for a challenging CAREER, then please write (in confidence), with full C.V. to:

Managing Director,
Wilkinson's Limited,
Corrie House, 48/54 London Road,
Staines, London, TW18 4JB.



SEAGRAM RETAIL

Seagram Retail, a division of the large world wide Seagram Company, was recently formed upon the acquisition of the well known Oddbins, Gough Brothers and Agnew's off licence chains. Further expansion has already taken place.

PERSONNEL MANAGER

... A career move

I am looking for a professional with a highly motivated, flexible and innovative approach to join our new and developing Personnel and Training Department and to contribute to our long and short term functional plans and policies.

Reporting to the Personnel Executive you will ideally be aged late 20s, with good sound overall generalist experience, and looking for definite career advancement.

You will be responsible for developing a comprehensive Personnel and Training service for a staffing level of over 1,300 employees located throughout the country. A retail/service background in a multi-site environment would be preferable.

An attractive remuneration package, which includes a salary c£14,000 plus car, and good development prospects are offered.

Please write with full CV to:

Richard Towse, Personnel Executive,
Seagram Retail Limited,
31-33 Weir Road,
Darnley Industrial Estate, Wimbledon SW19 6UG

Tel: 01-879 1199 J230/41

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Bosal, Europe's leading manufacturer of exhaust systems for motor vehicles, are inviting applications for the post of Managing Director at their Company in the UK, Bosal UK Limited, Preston, Lancashire.

We are looking for a qualified engineer with good general management and commercial experience, capable of managing a highly successful and fast growing enterprise. The Company currently employs 350 personnel in a modern, well equipped, exhaust system manufacturing and distribution plant, together with distribution warehouses in Glasgow and Luton. The Company is aggressively engaged in the marketing of a full range of high quality replacement exhaust systems through a network of distributors together with an increasing involvement in the OC field of the market.

Bosal UK Limited participates in its share of exhaust system product development, testing and manufacturing method development in close co-operation with the other European Bosal plants in Holland, Belgium, Germany, France, UK and Spain.

The Company's information systems are fully computerised with modern control and reporting systems which are in continuous development to respond to the objective of the highest level of efficiency and profitability.

Applicants, to be around forty years of age, are invited to send their letters of application and a full CV to:

Mr. Karel Bos, Chairman Bosal Group,
Bosal International Management N.V.,
Mishagen 65, PO Box 37, B-2130 Brasschaat, Belgium.

SAUNDERS VALVES WORLDWIDE

... due to internal promotions and major expansion programmes, Saunders - the World's leading manufacturer of diaphragm valves for fluids handling and control in every facet of industry at home and abroad, have the following opportunities:-

SALARIES CIRCA £12 - £15,000 p.a.

COMPANY CAR: BUPA: BONUS SCHEME: RE-LOCATION ASSISTANCE

MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES

SALES OPPORTUNITIES

SENIOR PRODUCT MANAGER

To develop and promote existing major product range. Must have experience of marketing industrial products and ideally a chemical/mechanical engineering/process industry background.

REGIONAL SALES MANAGER - NORTH OF ENGLAND

We need someone used to negotiating at all levels of industry with a strong background in Chemical Processing. Location - North of England.

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT MANAGER - CONTROL

Person required will have a sound knowledge of instrumentation and control within the process industries and previous sales/marketing experience with an awareness of effective business management and product development.

SALES MANAGER - 4 TURN VALVES

An opportunity for a leader in ball and butterfly valve sales management.

RESEARCH MANAGER

Must have previous experience in an industrial research environment. Good knowledge of practical statistics, information systems and information sources worldwide essential.

REGIONAL SALES MANAGER - EXPORT

Experienced in travelling and selling a technical product to overseas markets. Knowledge of the Process Industry and used to negotiating at all levels. Language ability would be an advantage.

Cwmbran is situated in one of the most glorious parts of Britain. Come and see for yourself.

In the first place, please write in confidence with full career and salary details, quoting the appropriate post, to: Mr. S. A. Curtis, Sales and Marketing Director, Saunders Valve Co. Ltd, Grange Road, Cwmbran, Gwent NP44 3XX.

THE ABOVE VACANCIES ARE OPEN TO MEN & WOMEN



TRAINEE BROKERS

We are a well established and highly successful West End brokerage providing a wide range of ideas/concepts in the financial services market to both the private and corporate sectors.

Due to continued expansion we now require four trainee brokers. No relevant experience is necessary but you will need to be ambitious, able to thrive in a competitive environment, and aged between 23-35.

If you are the right person we offer a full training programme, leading to a full professional qualification. High earning potential. Plus the usual benefits associated with a company excelling in its field.

If you want the opportunity to dictate your own future and think you can satisfy our requirements contact:

The Recruitment Officer on
01-409 2928

Treasury Accountant

£17 - £18,000 negotiable

**LINK
MANAGEMENT
SELECTION**

This privately owned international group who have superb offices in a central London location require a young professional to assist in the day-to-day running of their treasury department.

Reporting to the Corporate Finance Manager, your responsibilities will include: monitoring and controlling of both manual and computerised cash flow, liaison with group subsidiaries, banks and financial institutions, foreign exchange, the maintenance and control of the treasury system as well as production of monthly reports and special projects as directed by the Finance Manager.

Presently you will be working within the banking world or an accountancy firm and have gained relevant qualifications. You will have had P.C. experience or will be willing to become familiar with them. Your ability to work on your own initiative will be essential. You will be keen to make your next move into commerce with a progressive organisation who reward their staff with career development and attractive salary packages.

If you feel that you can meet this challenge please write with a CV to Jennifer Baker, LINK Management Selection, 24 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LB. Tel. 01-634 3777.

150-151

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

We'd like to introduce you to one of the most exciting and thoroughly rewarding professional training programmes that computer minded graduates are likely to encounter. It's called the **SYSTEMS ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**. SED for short.

At the forefront of information processing technology, EDS' worldwide success and continuing expansion is built on the firmest foundations - our people, and the training we give them. So you could say we have a vested interest in making sure your natural skills and abilities are fully developed.

We're offering a training opportunity that is regarded as the most comprehensive grounding available anywhere in the industry. The 3 phase SED training programme emphasises customer orientation, technical instruction and practical experience. Over an 18 month period there will be a combination of on-the-job training and classroom lectures.

We're looking for young men and women with unusual potential, excellent communication skills and the desire to succeed. Graduates who have attended data processing courses or who have

data processing experience. All appointments are accompanied by an excellent salary and benefits package.

If you aim for total professional development, and want unlimited potential for future achievement, why not come in and see us and allow us to explain the facts about the SED Programme.

Write to: Rosemary Parfitt, EDS Recruiting Department,

Queens House West, Greenhill Way, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 1GR. Or alternatively, phone during office hours on 01-861 2233 ext 3197.

EDS

Electronic Data Systems.

GRADUATES

FOR TWO MINUTES OF YOUR UNDIVIDED ATTENTION, WE COULD WELL GIVE YOU YEARS OF OURS.

U.K. Sales & Marketing Perfumery

Established in 1975, we have quickly become the largest British exporter of fine fragrance, winning the Queen's Award on the way.

We now believe we have the product concepts, financial resources, and corporate resolve to tackle the home market.

We are looking for the right person who, with very little direction, will be able to establish a U.K. operation and chart the course to success.

He/she must have relevant experience, original thinking, and know how to navigate drug stores and supermarkets, as well as conventional perfumery distribution.

He/she will probably be 30-35 years old, a graduate, a master salesman, and will certainly see this as a great opportunity.

Salary £21000 + bonus without limit + car. S.E. London base.

Interested?

Then send C.V. to: Managing Director, Milton-Lloyd Ltd., 42/44 Norwood High Street, London SE27 9NR.

(Closing date for applications Feb. 28th 1987.)

Stop wasting time!
For the right career move call
01 587 0490

HAMILTON MAY

Hamilton May Limited
Hamilton House
28 Black Prince Road
London SE1 7SJ

MARKETING CO-ORDINATOR

£10,750

A major international service organisation located in Central London is seeking a person to assist the director responsible for obtaining new business within the Manufacturing and High Tech sectors. Applicants should be graduates aged 22-28 years who are capable of undertaking in depth research into potential clients; assisting in the development of the appropriate marketing and sales strategies; developing and maintaining comprehensive information systems and organising seminars and promotional material. This position will appeal to those who are analytical thinkers with an eye for detail, who excel in the art of communication and who enjoy working on their own initiative in a sophisticated people oriented environment.

01-409 1874

Recruitment Consultants: St George's House, 12A St George's Street, London W1R 9DE

DIRECTOR COMMONWEALTH PRESS UNION

Applications are invited for the appointment of Director of the Commonwealth Press Union, which serves the interests of member newspapers, news agencies and periodicals throughout the Commonwealth. The post is London based and the successful candidate will be expected to assume operational duties as soon as possible.

The activities of the Union concern press freedom, newspaper management and journalistic training, and telecommunications generally.

Some knowledge of the media and of the Commonwealth is desirable. Administrative and executive experience are prime requirements. The successful candidate will be responsible for implementation of agreed policies; organising conferences; ensuring proper financial and administrative control, and supervising a small secretariat. Occasional overseas travel is involved.

Age - preferably early 50's. Salary negotiable. Non-contributory pension scheme and company car.

Applications, by 15th March 1987, in confidence with a full C.V. and naming two referees to:

Vice-Chairman of Council, Commonwealth Press Union, Studio House, Hen & Chickens Court, 184 Fleet Street, London, EC4A 2DU, England.

CAREER WITH FULL TRAINING IN MARKETING COMPANY

The company is expanding and looking for young, well-educated people aged between 22-28 years, who have some work experience and now want to develop a career. The job involves marketing and communication and the company is looking for people to train in management skills, sales and research.

It means hard work, long hours and a high commitment to learning.

The vacancy is IMMEDIATE. Please call Erica on 01-328 9732.

PROGRAMMES RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY

OPPORTUNITY IN ANTIQUES

Prestigious Mayfair showrooms seek applications from Graduates for the post of retail manager responsible for the sale of first-class antique clocks, watches and scientific instruments. An interest in mechanics is essential.

Please reply with detailed CV to Box No A76, c/o The Times.

CJA

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH
Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576
Telex No. 887374 Fax No. 01-256 8501

Opportunity to establish and develop a major engineering industry product in support of the investment banking teams

CJRA CITY

ENGINEERING INDUSTRY EXPERT

£100,000 PLUS PACKAGE

MAJOR EUROPEAN BANK

We invite applications from individuals with established reputations in the engineering industry gained either by actual working experience or by success in investment research. The position requires someone whose opinions and views on the industry's trends, technologies, new products and evolving market shares are likely to be sought not only by investors but also by companies themselves. Numeracy and a flair for presenting written and verbal material will be essential. Reporting to the Head of Equities, the successful candidate will be responsible for building and co-ordinating a team of investment analysts based in London and elsewhere within an international network. Regular travel to see companies in UK and abroad will be necessary and another language would be useful but not essential. The initial package of £100,000 plus includes a high base salary, a profit related bonus (guaranteed for the first year), and excellent banking benefits (including car and mortgage subsidy). Written applications in strict confidence quoting reference EIE18745/TT will be forwarded unopened to our client unless you list companies to which they should not be sent in a covering letter marked for the attention of the Security Manager: CJRA or alternatively you may wish to telephone on 01-638 0532 for a confidential discussion.

Opportunity for self-starter to develop this new role caused by expansion. Prospects to advance to Assistant General Manager within 2-3 years

CJRA CITY

OPERATIONS MANAGER - INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

£25,000-£32,000 + BONUS + CAR + MORTGAGE SUBSIDY

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT ARM OF EXPANDING MERCHANT BANK

We invite applications from individuals with an accounting or business administration qualification, who are unlikely to be aged less than 28, who must have had at least 3 years' demanding pension fund or investment management administrative experience. This will have included supervision of settlements, valuation of investment portfolios and dealing with a company's statutory requirements. Reporting to the Managing Director, the selected candidate will be responsible for overseeing investment accounting and settlements; budgeting; computer systems; company secretarial compliance and SFO reporting matters as well as monitoring and analysing the investment performance of corporate client portfolios. Essential qualities are to quickly establish credibility within the existing team, diplomacy and self-motivation. Initial salary negotiable £25,000-£32,000 + bonus, car, mortgage facility, non-contributory pension, life assurance, free medical insurance and assistance with relocation if necessary. Applications in strict confidence under reference OM18746/TT will be forwarded unopened to our client unless you list companies to which they should not be sent in a covering letter marked for the attention of the Security Manager: CJRA.

Opportunity to establish an in-house press relations function

CJRA CITY

PRESS RELATIONS OFFICER

£22,000 - £28,000 + BANK BENEFITS

MAJOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITIES HOUSE

We invite applications from candidates, aged 25-32, who must have had at least 2 years' demanding press relations experience gained either in a financial consultancy or in-house, most probably with a financial institution. Strong writing/journalistic skills plus well established links with the financial press are essential. The selected candidate, who will report direct to the Managing Director, will be responsible for setting up and running an effective press relations function for the company; this will entail close liaison with the marketing department concerning the development, presentation and marketing of new financial products, as well as enhancing the perception of the company with the group's varied and wide ranging clients and potential customers. Essential qualities are self-motivation, diplomacy and the ability to drive forward this new function. Initial remuneration, including high basic salary and company bonus, negotiable in the range £22,000 - £28,000, mortgage subsidy + non-contributory pension, free life assurance and permanent health insurance. Applications in strict confidence, under reference: PRO4463/TT to the Managing Director: CJRA.

35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON EC2M 1NH. TELEPHONE: 01-588 3588 OR 01-588 3576. TELEX: 887374. FAX: 01-256 8501.

ORGANISATIONS REQUIRING ASSISTANCE ON RECRUITMENT - PLEASE TELEPHONE 01-628 7539

SUPPORT CONSULTANTS PROJECT MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

PSDI (UK) Limited is the European headquarters of Project Software and Development Inc, the world's largest independent project management software company.

To support the continued expansion of our European client base, we are seeking experienced software consultants to:

- * provide customer support
- * assist our sales team
- * conduct seminars and training courses
- * undertake short-term consultancy assignments

To fulfil these demanding responsibilities ideal candidates will have experience from the following:

- o Project Management
- o Customer Support/Training
- o Relational Database Systems
- o IBM & VAX Systems
- o Microcomputers
- o Application Development

Good interpersonal and presentation skills are essential and knowledge of a foreign language highly desirable.

You will join a dynamic team with an established international company. A generous salary package plus benefits will be offered commensurate with experience.

Please send CV to Bob Fowler, PSDI (UK) Limited, Berkeley Square House, London W1X 5LA or telephone 01-491 4468 for further details.

PSDI

PSDI (UK) Limited

IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT EGYPT

Our Client has several vacancies in the following Job Positions:-

Hair Stylist - Female or male, City and Guilds preferred.

Cooks and Bakers - must have City and Guilds.

Plumbers - must have City and Guilds, be experienced in the maintenance of lines and equipment associated with Low Pressure Gas (LPG).

Salary and benefits are excellent.

Please send your C.V. to or contact W. Station, as soon as possible.

SYSTEMFORD

Systemford Ltd
205 Euston Road
London NW1 2AF
Tel: 01-580 222/7/8
Telex: 8880142 SYFGB

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Earnings of c.£14,000 +

As a well established group specialising in the field of accountancy recruitment, our continued success necessitates further expansion of our branch network both within Central London and the suburbs.

We currently require additional consultants to join us and share in our success.

We guarantee that your duties and responsibilities will always be interesting and opportunities for definite career progression to management level are assured for those displaying determination, enthusiasm and the will to succeed in a fast moving service industry.

INTERESTED?

Then please telephone:
Miss Briony Russell,
REED ACCOUNTANCY,
01-491 3230

DENTAL TECHNICIANS

Qualified gold and acrylic technicians and ceramists urgently required for dental laboratory in Newhaven, East Sussex. Salaries commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Apply: Mrs Bennett

15 High Street

Newhaven.

Tel: 0273 517091

Materials and Purchasing Management

Smiths Industries is an international organisation comprising some 40 subsidiary companies involved in manufacturing products for the Aerospace and Defence, Marine, Medical and General Industrial markets.

Due to continued expansion in both home and export markets opportunities now exist within the Materials Management function of two of our larger subsidiaries. The successful applicants will become senior members of teams involved in controlling the supply of materials in the most economic and timely manner.

These vacancies demand energetic, self-motivated Managers with an outstanding track record in the function, with practical experience of computerised manufacturing and purchasing systems and sound appreciation of the product technology involved.

Materials Manager, Portex Limited, Hythe Kent

This business is concerned with the development and manufacture of single use plastic products for the health care market. The person appointed to this key position will be accountable to the Operations Director for all aspects of the materials function. In particular this will involve contributing to the quality of both the product and the service to our customers, while keeping at a minimum, purchase costs and investment in stocks of materials and finished products.

Purchasing Manager, Portex Limited

The successful applicant is likely to be familiar with plastic raw materials, injection mouldings and tooling and will be responsible to the Materials Manager for source selection and the supply of a range of purchased parts and capital equipment. International sourcing, vendor negotiation, standardisation and new product introduction are all important facets of the position.

Purchasing Manager,

Aerospace & Defence Systems Ltd, Cheltenham

A leader in the field of commercial and military avionics systems, this company requires a person who will have generally similar responsibilities to the Portex vacancy. A knowledge of the electronics industry is highly desirable and this appointment could also appeal to those seeking to develop their career in the broader field of Materials Management.

Attractive remuneration a car for the materials manager, and re-location assistance will be offered to men or women who, unlikely to be less than 30 years of age, will probably be educated to Degree standard, and professionally qualified.

If you feel you have the qualities we require, write to us explaining why we should see you and enclose a CV, addressed to: A. Colman, Director of Procurement, Smiths Industries plc, 765 Finchley Road, Childs Hill, London NW11 8DS.



SMITHS INDUSTRIES
PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

MANAGER

IHG International AB, Stockholm, is a trading and investment company. In October, 1986 IHG Ltd. was founded as a subsidiary to expand IHG International AB's business in the U.K. We provide management, marketing, financial and accounting services for our clients, who are mainly Scandinavian companies involved in trading with the U.K.

We now urgently need a manager for IHG Ltd. who shall be responsible for the U.K. operations. Applicants must have a financial background; good knowledge of Scandinavian and U.K. markets, and documented experience and knowledge of Scandinavian export financing. Fluency in oral and written Swedish and Norwegian is also required.

Please write with full details before 20 Feb. to:

IHG Ltd.
Park House
165/177 The Broadway
London SW19 1AQ.

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

OVERSEAS APPOINTMENTS

Falkland Islands

The Overseas Development Administration is seeking to fill the following two posts for the Falkland Islands Government as soon as possible.

Government Veterinary Officer

Candidates should be British Citizens aged 25-50 with a degree in Veterinary Medicine and be members of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. At least 2 to 3 years practical background in mixed practice is essential as is experience of laboratory work.

The appointment is on contract to the Falkland Islands Government for a period of 2 to 3 years. Local salary is in the range £7,548-£10,068 pa, plus a tax free supplement, payable by ODA.

A terminal gratuity of 15% of local salary is also payable. Other benefits normally include free passages, children's education allowances and subsidised accommodation. Ref: AH369/IM/TT/1.

Parasitologist

The successful applicant will become involved in a programme of research principally into *Ostertagia circumcincta* and *Nematodirus filicollis* and their impact on sheep and wool production. You will be a member of a team based in Port Stanley although there will be some inter-island travel. A Zoology, Agricultural Zoology or Veterinary Science qualification is essential. Ref: AH369/IM/TT/2.

The appointment is on contract to ODA, on loan to the Falkland Islands Government, for a period of one year in the first instance. Salary (UK taxable) will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and will include an element in lieu of superannuation. A tax free Foreign Service Allowance is also payable.

The post is wholly financed by the British Government under Britain's programme of Aid to the developing countries. Other benefits normally include paid leave, free family passages, children's education allowances, free accommodation and medical attention.

For an application form, please write, quoting the appropriate reference and stating post concerned, to: Appointments Officer, Overseas Development Administration, Room 351, Abercrombie House, Eaglesham Road, EAST KILBRIDE, Glasgow G75 8EA. Or telephone 03552 41199, extension 3571.

OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT
Britain helping nations to help themselves

BBC APPOINTMENTS

BBC North East

Opportunities exist for experienced journalists at both our Leeds and Newcastle regional television newsrooms to help in the production of the nightly news magazine *Look North*, broadcast in separate editions from each newsroom.

You will also prepare regional news bulletins including *Breakfast Time* and contribute to network news and current affairs programmes. This will involve writing commentaries for ENG pictures and film, recording and evaluating programme material and having the ability to originate stories and suggest suitable treatments.

For both posts sound editorial judgement and journalistic experience gained in newspapers or broadcasting is necessary plus the ability to work quickly and accurately under pressure for live programmes. Current driving licence essential; knowledge of the area desirable.

The work is on a shift pattern including weekends.

Journalist (based Leeds) (Ref. 5447/UK)

Journalist (based Newcastle-Upon-Tyne) (Ref. 5416/UK)

REGIONAL JOURNALISTS

Television
Leeds &
Newcastle-Upon-Tyne
£10,412-£14,725*

REPORTER

Radio Bristol
£8,954-£11,110*

Radio Bristol, one of the BBC's major local radio stations, needs a reporter to join its news team. You will be working in a joint radio and television newsroom, contributing to a fast-moving service of hourly news bulletins and daily current affairs programmes. Accuracy, speed and the ability to generate ideas will be tested every hour and every day. We need a keen journalist who can 'think radio' and who has the flair, confidence and drive needed to succeed in a major news centre.

Journalistic experience, a good microphone voice and the ability to work under considerable pressure are essential — as is a current driving licence. You must be prepared to live close to the station. Knowledge of our transmission area and broadcasting experience are also desirable. (Ref. 6160/UK)

Relocation expenses considered.

*Plus an allowance of £597 p.a.

Contact us immediately for application form (quote appropriate ref. and enclose s.a.e.) BBC Appointments, London W1A 1AA. Tel. 01-927 5799.

We are an equal opportunities employer

Regius Keeper

Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh

The Secretary of State for Scotland and the Trustees of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh invite applications for appointment as Regius Keeper of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh. The vacancy will arise later this year following the retirement of Professor D. M. Henderson.

The Regius Keeper is responsible to the Board of Trustees for the science and management of all aspects of the Garden and its Herbarium, Laboratories and Library at Inverleith, Edinburgh, together with its satellite gardens at Logan, Benmore and Dawick. The Garden, whilst primarily a scientific institution concerned especially with world flora, is an important public amenity and plays a key role in the introduction and development of species for horticulture. It also conducts a diploma course in amenity horticulture and has a long tradition of co-operation with the Universities of Scotland.

The successful candidate is likely to be a person with an outstanding record of scientific or academic achievement, with management and leadership experience in potential. The postholder will be expected to develop further the work of the Garden and to maintain contact with similar institutions throughout the world and with Universities and research institutes operating in the broad field of plant sciences.

Still at the Garden enjoy terms and conditions of service analogous with those of the Civil Service. The salary range is presently £28,730 to £27,065, subject to review from April this year. There is a non-contributory pension scheme.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 20 March 1987) write to Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland, Room 107, Chester House, George Road, Edinburgh EH1 3AW, or telephone 031-435 1021 ext 2109 or 2092. Please quote ref. S/7158.

Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland
The Board of Trustees is an equal opportunity employer

MAYFAIR CHARITY THE NATIONAL FORUM TRUST

is an entirely new kind of self-help charity establishing an independent national and international public think-tank for innovation and action. The Forum is expanding rapidly and requires:

1) AN ADMINISTRATOR/SECRETARY/PA with initiative and energy for this challenging and responsible new post.

2) HIGHLY SKILLED FUND RAISER with imagination and experience to work with a small and highly motivated team in pleasant surroundings to raise £2m.

Please write with full C.V. to:
Mrs Margaret Berger,
98 Park Street,
London W1Y 3RJ.

STEP INTO THE TOPS '87 ADVENTURE

Top Holidays have seasonal vacancies starting in March for enthusiastic managers, activity instructors, group leaders and support staff to work at our superb adventure centres throughout France, Spain and the UK.

If you can manage and motivate a large staff team, if you have qualifications in sailing, canoeing, windsurfing, horseriding and outdoor education, if you are able to get on well with children in an informal environment, or if you simply possess organisational ability, stamina and a sense of adventure, we want to hear from you.

Call 0993 723210 or write to TOPS RECRUITMENT, 34-36 South St, Lancing, W Sussex, BN15 8AG.

NEWLY QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT

Accept the challenge of working in a fast-growing bank? to £18,640 including London allowance

Girobank has achieved significant growth and continues to extend its range of services to over two million corporate and personal customers. This is the environment in which a newly qualified Accountant will thrive and prosper.

We are looking for an ambitious, young Accountant to be based in our City office and work for the Manager of our Finance section in the production of accounts and accounting procedures relating mainly to our Treasury activities.

You will be responsible for supervising the day to day accounting operations on which we have 4 accounts supervisors and 7 clerks and for assisting in the development of a management accounting service for the London office. You will also be directly involved in developing accounting procedures for new investment instruments as they arise.

The accounting system has recently been converted to a computerised general ledger package run on IBM System 38 and it would be an advantage if you had some such experience. We need someone who can work on their own initiative, without supervision and who will readily be capable of standing in for the Manager.

NATIONAL
Girobank

You will need good communications and interpersonal skills as well as the right sort of accounting background.

Benefits include a minimum of 28 days holiday and a contributory index-linked pension scheme and relocation assistance where appropriate. Career development prospects within the bank are excellent.

Please write or telephone for an application form to: Paul Wildes, Management Appointments Manager, Girobank plc, Bridge Road, Bootle, Merseyside, G1R 0AA. Tel: 051-986 2487.

National Westminster Bank PLC

Management Accountants

£17,000+

NatWest have recently reorganised the Data Processing & Systems Departments to meet the challenges of the 1990s in the highly competitive financial services industry. This Information Technology Group has its own Management Accounting function and new accounting systems are being introduced on the Bank's mainframe computers and PCs.

We have several vacancies for qualified ACMA Management Accountants with a minimum of three years post qualified experience of:-

Budgetary Control and Forecasting

Project Control

Resource Costing

Capital and Project Appraisals

Candidates should have proven technical ability and be able to communicate effectively at all levels in a Data Processing and Systems environment.

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Personnel Resources
Commercial & Industrial Division

HORIZONS

A guide to
career development

Job-hunters please note: bearded smokers with pale left wrists, slip-on shoes and bow ties need not apply

Despite the batteries of staff selection tests available, there are still employers who rely heavily on Gideon-like judgements, says GODFREY GOLZEN in this guide for interviewees



judgements which his clients have encountered.

There is, for instance, one chief executive who never hires people with one tanned and one pale wrist. The reason? It is a sure sign that the person concerned spends an undue amount of time on the golf course.

A more mysterious prejudice is one where the recruiter had an invincible bias against candidates who displayed pale legs above short socks in an interview.

Footwear seems to be a fairly common focus of unfavourable notice. According to Mr Edwards, slip-on shoes come into this category, possibly because of some association with the term "slipshod", and, of course, any reader of *Scouting for Boys* will remember that Baden-Powell drew some damning inferences from shoes that were scuffed or down-at-heel.

Unfavourable reaction to designer labels

Smoking is another thing that can count against you. A newspaper publisher, on seeing one of his salesmen smoking, is reputed to have asked him how much he earned. On being told the figure, he pulled out his cheque book, gave him six months' pay and dismissed him on the spot.

A well-known architect who shares that aversion asks job applicants whether they smoke. If they do, that is the end of the interview. "We work in an open-plan office and it's not fair on other people," he says. "Besides, anyone who can't give up cigarettes when they know the health risks must be some kind of neurotic."

Since long hair for men has gone out of fashion as a sign of non-conformity, it no longer figures among the list of interviewers' pet aversions. There is as yet no record of anyone being refused a job for following the modish preference for short back and sides.

Beards and bow ties, however, remain fairly high on the unpopularity poll of orthodox managers.

Curiously enough, creative firms, where these are the least of a wide variety of personal and dress idiosyncrasies, tend to react unfavourably to designer labels, especially when these are displayed ostentatiously on the outside of whatever garment they are attached to.

To a large extent, though, dress and appearance is a question of conveying an image appropriate to the job or situation. An engineer in a crumpled off-the-peg suit might inspire confidence as everyone's idea of the holder, but a designer who dressed that way would be looked on with as much suspicion as a management consultant with an open-necked shirt.

Similarly, salesmen are expected to be soberly dressed, preferably one step behind the current fashion. Thus IBM, which came closer than most organisations to extending its corporate identity into prescribing what its staff wear, moved cautiously into allowing their salesmen to switch from white to coloured shirts - just as these were going out in favour of stripes.

Appropriateness can, in fact, have a totally formal expression, as with barristers wearing wigs. What you wear is, however, only an aspect of "body language" - a subject that used to be regarded with scepticism in our culture, though it has always been taken seriously by some non-European ones. The Arabs, for instance, take great exception to people who sit showing the soles of their feet, which is regarded as indicating a lack of respect.

Striking such a position may indeed call for a degree of relaxation that borders on the sloppy and such conventions often have a behavioural content.

Derek Edwards, for instance, reports that many interviewers object to candidates who sit with their legs crossed and their ankles resting on their knees - which sounds unreasonable until you try it and discover that it calls for a sprawling position that in a stranger one would find unduly familiar.

Body language is concerned with gesture and movement as much as overt behaviour, and because it is mostly unintentional, it is being seen as a revealing indicator of the nature of personalities and situations.

According to proponents of body language, the person who sits next to you in a meeting is unlikely to be the one seeking a confrontation with you. In that case, they are more likely to place themselves opposite you.

That will put them in a position, consciously or otherwise, to observe how you react to the proceedings by posture or facial expression and to cue their own behaviour accordingly.

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Continued on next page

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Dawe the wolf in sheep's clothing

It took Dawe another two years to

"You have to have a goal and England was at the back of my mind when I made the move," Dawe said. The reward for such single-minded perseverance may have come earlier than expected but Dawe may care to bear in mind that the last West Country farmer to play hooker for England was Bristol's John Pullin and he stayed to play 42 times for his country.



But Ray Williams, the WRU secretary, said yesterday that Davies would first be made aware of the decision before it was announced to the press. He asked whether the Neath player would be on the flight to Paris with the rest of the team for Saturday's game against France, Williams said: "That is a matter for conjecture."

A Wales under-19 squad will be touring New Zealand from August 8-29 this year. The squad of 26 players will include Welsh schoolboys, youths, and college students.

The Knicks promptly called

has been installed.

coach. He was a famous school of rugby which offered France a line-up of celebrities like Rives, Centre, Astor, Salant and now Bonnevall. But Bonnevall reckoned that his greatest influence in his career was the famous coach of Béziers, Raoul Barrière.

"I was at the special rugby school where Bonnevall was sitting. His approach was very careful about every detail. That is what I learned the best from him. He was a real professional," Bonnevall said.

He followed a successful record, following the 1986 World Cup. They won 29 out of 30 matches and the only side to beat them was Bristol Colts, coached by Bonnevall's guide and inspiration, Ewynn Preece.

He coached St Brendan's for over 20 enjoyable and successful years, culminating in one of their most glorious triumphs, the winning of the All-Ireland Schools' 15-a-side Football at Preston Grasshoppers in 1983, and they won it again last year when they beat Walsfield 10-0 in the final.

The extraordinary zest and

Price created, which has clearly carried on after his retirement; last season's St Brendan's successes were reflected at International level when Mark O'Grady and Alan Sharp were selected for the England 19 team.

Price's influence has extended to the full England side as Mike Rutherford, a former Gloucester flanker, is a product of his coaching. Now in retirement, Price is as busy as ever; apart from his demanding duties with the Gloucester club, he is at Colston School and is the Gloucestershire Schools' coach.

one game for seven weeks and they will be hoping a return to their Southgate ground will signal a change of luck.

After opening the season with a flourish, which saw them obtain a one hundred per cent record longer than any other senior team in England on sales, Saracens' fortunes have taken a downward turn.

Jean-Pierre Rives, the most celebrated captain of the French national team, will be adding his presence to the match against England at Twickenham on February 21. Rives will later meet the president of the club in a feast of honour at the eve-of-the-match international dinner.

But Ray Williams, the WRU secretary, said yesterday that Davies would first be made aware of the decision before it was announced to the press. He asked whether the Neath players would be on the flight to Paris with the rest of the team for Saturday's game against France. Williams said: "That is a matter for conjecture."

A Wales under-19 squad was touring New Zealand from August 8-29 this year. The squad of 26 players will include Welsh schoolboys, youths, and college students.

annual figure published last month by the Scottish Fisheries Department records a sport fishing catch of 76,090 salmon in 1984, a 20 per cent increase on compared with 1984. The greatest individual regional increase was 41 per cent in the Firth of Clyde, the Firth of Forth and the Firth of Tay.

The angling catch was the highest recorded for Scotland since 1933, that is since records were started in 1952. As a result the bycatches were a further steep decline, this meant that 28 per cent of the total catch of salmon and grise went to the fishery.

The total weight of the salmon and grise caught by all methods was a record low at 913 tonnes, a decline caught by netsmen was again

The decline of licensed sport fishing was due to possibly too many anglers, some of which statistics do show. Some netmen have been bought out, some have entered the fish farming industry and some have closed down because of competition from salmon fish farms. Fewer netmen work would certainly increase the chances of the rods but we do not know whether this is the actual reason for the decline probably were. There is a possibility that the upward trend of sport fishing will have continued last season.

© Copies of the Scottish Fisheries Bulletin for 1985 can be obtained, price 75p, including postage, from the Scottish Fisheries Library, New St Andrew's House, Edinburgh.

Johnnie 150

CRICKET: NOW ENGLAND AND INDIA WILL HAVE TO THINK HARD

Pakistan in control of first Test after Imran's great innings

From Richard Streeton, Madras

Imran Khan played one of the greatest innings of recent years yesterday as Pakistan's last three wickets added 214 runs against India in the first Test match here.

Imran's stupendous effort brought him to a chanceless 135 not out and enabled Pakistan to declare at 487 for nine wickets. India were left 20 minutes to bat, and made 15 without loss. Today is a rest day.

Imran batted for four and three-quarter hours and regularly took drinks to wash down pain-killing and salt tablets to counter the discomforts of a strained left wrist, and dehydration in the scorching 58°F heat.

In succession, he added 112 with Wasim Akram for the eighth wicket, then Salim Yousuf, scored 40 minutes as 21 runs came; finally Imran scored 67 out of 81 added for the last wicket with Tauseef Ahmed.

Seldom did Imran desert a careful, studious approach, with the Indian spin attack, which he treated with respect.

MADRAS SCOREBOARD

PAKISTAN First innings
Rizwan ul-Zaman c More b Kulam 101
Shahid Afridi b More b Kulam 54
Imran Khan not out 135
Wasim Akram not out 112
Salim Yousuf c More b Kulam 40
Tauseef Ahmed not out 67
Extras (b 11 w 1 nb 1) 13
Total (for 9 wickets) 487
FALL OF WICKETS 1-2, 2-40, 3-215, 4-227, 5-234, 6-237, 7-273, 8-385, 9-488.

INDIA First innings
Srinivasan b Imran 10
Kulkarni b Imran 54
Kapil Dev b Imran 101
Srinivasan b Imran 10
Extras (b 4 w 1 nb 1) 10
Total (for 5 wickets) 101
FALL OF WICKETS 1-10, 2-54, 3-101, 4-10, 5-10.

One final mission remains

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Melbourne

England's cricketers flew here from Devonport yesterday, in readiness for the first Benson and Hedges World Series Cup (WSC) Final on Sunday. The visitors earlier the West Indians had headed off to Sydney, where they play tomorrow, knowing their near-invincibility in one-day cricket in Australia is a thing of the past.

The best West Indies can hope for tomorrow is a good win to sign off with. To keep England out of the finals, by passing their scoring rate, they would need to score at seven and a half runs an over, and at least 30 runs an over if they were to beat second after bowling Australia out for, say, 200. They might as well try and win the World Series Cup, and then have to accept the fact.

As if he has not already had a difficult enough time, Steve Cram, the West Indian manager, (he is also secretary of the Board of Control) has to decide next how his players might best pass their time between Saturday, when they will have finished in Australia, and a week on Sunday, when they are due to play the first of 10 matches in New Zealand, including three Test matches and four one-day internationals. Cram will probably let them rest for a while, feeling that that is what they need most.

There are going to be changes, anyway, in the West Indian side who have been here for the Perth Challenge and the WSC Cup. Greenidge and Holding were both having medicals last night, their replacements having already been chosen should they fail to pass fit.

Neither of these fine players would, in fact, be going home. Greenidge has been much as vice-captain. Holding has not, though it was against his better judgement that he agreed in the first place to postpone his retirement so as to help the team. The changes are that Greenidge will be replaced by the Guyanese prodigy, Carl Hooper, sent for.

England, meanwhile, can hardly believe their fortunes. This time last year they were about to take a fearful battering in one-day internationals as well as Tests, from the visiting West Indian side who they have beaten four times out of five since the new year. Despite a rather self-indulgent WSC campaign, England are now, to all intents and purposes, the first Test side to reach the final of the Benson and Hedges World Series Cup, which they will play on Sunday.

Their spoils at present amount to approximately £240,000, to be divided between the 16 of them. They picked up £16,000 in the Test series, much the same in the one-day tournament in Perth, and £28,000 in their qualifying WSC matches. If they now win the WSC Cup, that will be another £18,000, and should Chris Broad drive away in the 20th century, much of the £18,000 will be his.

In Devonport on Tuesday, England saved themselves and their supporters a let-down in the wake of their Ashes victory. Given the state of the team, Australia in the final they will, I am sure, make an effort worthy of them. They intend to have two good full practices tomorrow and on Saturday, and they hope for a full complement to choose from on Sunday.

If, to finish on a really good note, a financial incentive is what they need, they can have it, they can double their money by the end of next week by winning two of the three finals. That would bring their winnings for the tour to £4,500 a man - not much by the standards of a touring team, but enough for an extra bedroom or a holiday or two.

SKIING: GASPOZ COMES SO CLOSE TO SPOILING THE PARTY

Golden gift for Zurbriggen

From David Miller, Chief Sports Correspondent, Crans Montana

The world Alpine championships had been notable so far for quality rather than drama. A worldwide television audience of 500 million had watched Sunday's downhill victory by Peter Mueller but the predictability of much of the first eight runs, dominated by the Swiss, had lacked spice. Yesterday that changed in the men's giant slalom.

Misfortune, as Mary Decker would reluctantly agree, is often part of the plot of memorable events. Joel Gaspoz, a local boy who was fourth in the championships' giant slalom four years ago when only 19, fell on yesterday's second run after leading the formidable Pirmin Zurbriggen and Marc Girardelli on the first run.

He was within 130 metres or so of the line and a popular triumph over the World Cup champions of the past three years. On the first run he had led Zurbriggen by three-tenths of a second and Girardelli, placed fourth behind Albert Tomba, of Italy, by seven-tenths of a second. At the halfway stage of the second run - fifteenth out of the gate as they raced in reverse order - he was an additional four-tenths of a second behind Zurbriggen. At the time he fell he was, according to television, a total of almost half a second clear of his two rivals.

The celebration Gaspoz and his followers, he said, after the finishing apron: "I raced too fast. I expected the final stretch on the (changed) second run to have sharper turns but found it was more straight. At the third last gate, my weight was too far back on my skis, I lost control on the outer ski and couldn't regain it and hit the gate."

My first concern was that I wasn't injured, and only then came the disappointment. I knew half-way down the run that I was going well, that I ought to win, but my style is to attack and I cannot change that. I tried to change it but I was not disappointed either way.

Poor fellow. He had thought the World Cup - in which he lies third - "and if I fail in the world championship the earth will not stop turning." He and Zurbriggen would not be giving each other gifts, he told La Suisse. How true. Yesterday was Zurbriggen's 24th birthday. Gaspoz is lying second in the World Cup standings in both



Icing on the cake: Zurbriggen celebrates his 24th birthday after adding another gold to his medal collection

giant slalom and slalom behind, respectively. Richard Pramotton, of Italy - who went out on the first run, - and Ingemar Stenmark, of Sweden, who yesterday finished tenth, some two seconds behind the winner Gaspoz's overall third place is behind Zurbriggen and Marcus Wasmeier, of West Germany, with Girardelli, champion for the last two years, out of the running at eleventh.

More than 14,000 people had crowded up the mountain to take up positions on Pians Mayens, the plateau on which Crans stands uniquely, with its lakes and golf courses at 5,500 feet. There was suspense as the early racers on the second run came down. Stenmark improved his position from twelfth to tenth. Wasmeier dropped from sixth to thirteenth.

Results

1. P. Zurbriggen (Switz), 2m 32.38sec; 2. M. Girardelli (Ital), 2m 32.45sec; 3. A. Tomba (Ital), 2m 32.51sec; 4. B. Stenmark (Swe), 2m 32.51sec; 5. J. Gaspoz (Fra), 2m 32.57sec; 6. M. Wasmeier (Ger), 2m 32.57sec; 7. R. Pramotton (Ital), 2m 32.57sec; 8. M. Pirmin (Switz), 2m 32.57sec; 9. O. Toesch (Aust), 2m 32.57sec; 10. I. Stenmark (Swe), 2m 32.57sec; 11. R. Pramotton (Ital), 2m 32.57sec; 12. P. Zurbriggen (Switz), 2m 32.57sec; 13. M. Wasmeier (Ger), 2m 32.57sec; 14. B. Stenmark (Swe), 2m 32.57sec; 15. P. Zurbriggen (Switz), 2m 32.57sec; 16. M. Wasmeier (Ger), 2m 32.57sec; 17. R. Pramotton (Ital), 2m 32.57sec; 18. M. Pirmin (Switz), 2m 32.57sec; 19. O. Toesch (Aust), 2m 32.57sec; 20. I. Stenmark (Swe), 2m 32.57sec.

Twelfth man out of the gate was Girardelli. His time a 1min 14.52sec put him in the lead. Tomba, next down, could not quite match him, and slipped, it seemed, out of the medals into a probable fourth place.

Now came Zurbriggen. Of the times I have watched him in the slalom he has never, to my eye, looked better.

By 0.07sec he was ahead of Girardelli - who nearly went out at the same place as Gaspoz on the first run - thrusting through the finishing line almost sitting on his skis. Two silvers and two golds in two days. He knew how fortunate he was this time.

Trump of doom for Sri Lanka

From a Correspondent, Colombo

Martin Bicknell, the Surrey fast bowler, ripped through the Young Sri Lanka batting to put Young England in a commanding position at the end of the second day in their first four-day youth international at the Colombo Cricket Club ground here yesterday.

On a pitch that afforded help to the fast bowlers, Bicknell did the Sri Lankan batsmen in discomfort with his disconcerting lift. He finished the day with four for 41 in 22 overs as Sri Lanka limped to 145 for nine by the close in reply to Young England's 214.

Bicknell and Fraser, England's opening bowlers, allowed Rajapakse and Allurath, the Sri Lanka openers, to get off to a sound start when they failed to find the correct line in their opening spell. But once Trump of the off-spinner, had initiated the breakthrough by having Rajapakse leg-before for 31 after the first-wicket stand of 71 wickets began to fall in regular intervals as England gradually crawled back into the game.

Allurath was the top scorer with 40 in 145 minutes, including four fours. Bicknell had him out. Hattusvitage, trapped in front of the wicket in successive overs off his second spell. The batting never recovered and the persistence of Bicknell, Tennant and Fraser prevailed. Trump also chipped in with three valuable wickets.

England's first innings lasted 30 minutes after they resumed at 200 for eight at the start of play. Bicknell and Tennant were bowled by Madena, the Sri Lankan captain, to give him four for 52.

ENGLAND YOUNG CRICKETERS First innings
M. Bicknell c Madena b Wimalaratne 34
J. Tennant c Madena b Wimalaratne 34
J. Fraser c Madena b Wimalaratne 34
J. Allurath c Madena b Wimalaratne 34
J. Hattusvitage c Madena b Wimalaratne 34
Extras (b 11 w 1 nb 1) 13
Total (for 9 wickets) 214
FALL OF WICKETS 1-2, 2-40, 3-215, 4-227, 5-234, 6-237, 7-273, 8-385, 9-488.

S Africa win series after stalemate

From Ivo Tennant, Port Elizabeth

As at Newlands, and to an extent, Kingsmead, the pitch here proved too flat to bring about a positive result. No fewer than 13 centuries have been scored in the three matches, which speaks for itself. By dint of winning the opening match at the Wanderers, when none was made, South Africa won the series.

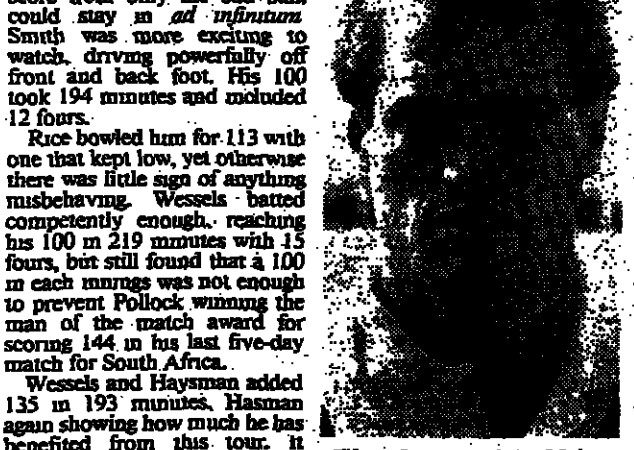
Yesterday Wesels made his second 100 of the match as the unofficial Australians batted out the day. Had they not an early wicket, they might have struggled. But Smith also made a hundred and when Hughes was out, Wesels and Hayman batted for two sessions and more.

Something needs to be done here to prepare better pitches if spectators are not to defect to the one-day matches in drives. On Saturday, when these began, there will be a full house at St George's Park. Even last Sunday, when the pitch was in, the ground was not full.

A timeless Test could have been played on this pitch. A batsman like Wesels, content to score from only the bad ball, could stay in *ad infinitum*. Smith was more exacting to watch, driving powerfully off front and back foot. His 100 took 194 minutes and included 12 fours.

Rice bowled him for 113 with one that kept low, yet otherwise there was little sign of anything misbehaving. Wesels batted competently enough, reaching his 100 in 219 minutes with 15 fours, but still found that a 100 in each innings was not enough to prevent Pollock winning the man of the match award for scoring 144 in his last five-day match for South Africa.

Wesels and Hayman added 135 in 193 minutes. Hayman again showed how much he has benefited from this tour: it seems as if his state, South



Wesels: at most stubborn

Slack gets the all-clear and leaves hospital

Will Slack, the England opening batsman, was released from hospital in Devonport, Tasmania, yesterday morning and has returned to Melbourne to join the rest of the England team.

The 32-year-old Middlesex player spent two nights in hospital after collapsing during the first day of the Test match on Monday. "All sorts of tests were carried out but happily, the doctors found absolutely nothing wrong," Peter Lush, the England team manager, said. "They say it was just exhaustion."

Slack confirmed that he felt "perfectly okay" yesterday. "Glen Closeby will hire out their new fast bowler, Victor 'Vibert' Greene, to a league club this summer. The 22-year-old West Indian is unable to appear for the county's first team when their overseas pace bowler,



Wesels: at most stubborn

Australians in bicentenary fixture pile-up

Devonport, Tasmania (Reuters) - The Australian cricket team's fixtures met yesterday to set out a fixture pile-up at the start of 1988.

Next year marks the 200th anniversary of the founding of Australia, an occasion that will be marked by a bicentenary Test between Australia and England during January.

But fitting the match in is proving a problem. The Series competition involving Australia, New Zealand and Sri Lanka also has to be accommodated and the Test dates have to suit England in advance of a tour of New Zealand.

David Richards, the Australian Cricket Board chief executive, said the board hoped to release details of a compromise later this week.

Feeney to compete in new division

John Feeney of Harlepool, twice the British bantamweight champion, will meet Paul Higgins from Hastings at the National Sporting Club, London, on February 16.

This will be the Feeney's first contest in the super featherweight division (nine stone-four lb) after two unsuccessful attempts to win the British featherweight title in 1986. He lost a fight for the vacant championship to Robert Dickie, from Wales, in April and was beaten on points against him in October. "We might be suited to the new division where the pace is a little slower," Denny Mancini, Feeney's manager, said yesterday. "If he comes through this fight well, we will make a positive move towards getting him back into the public eye."

David Garside, from Harlepool, the leading contender for the British heavyweight title, completes his 'apprenticeship' against the seasoned Louis Pergaud at Newcastle's Mayfair suite today.

His first test as a 'fully qualified' heavyweight will be against Floozie. Notice, the champion, in the spring in his bid to become the first fighter from the North East to win the domestic crown since the war. Garside is unbeaten in his last seven fights.

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Bernardo Pinango, of Venezuela, survived a twelfth round knockdown to retain his World Boxing Association (WBA) bantamweight title on Tuesday with a 15-round unanimous decision over Frankie Duran of the United States.

Nykanen gets Finnish recall

Helsinki (Reuters) - Matti Nykanen, the Finnish world and Olympic ski jumping champion, will rejoin his national team for the world Nordic championships, the Finnish Ski Federation said yesterday.

Nykanen, who was left out of the team after disciplinary troubles and disappointing results, was reinstated after showing good form in the national training camp, the federation added. Nykanen was named as the non-travelling reserve two weeks ago after a poor performance in the Finnish national championships.

The federation insisted that Nykanen, aged 23, had been dropped strictly on merit, but the decision came shortly after he had been ordered home from the Four Hills contest in Austria and West Germany when officials said he was unfit to compete.

The support for Britain's Nordic teams, which will include the biathlon squad as well, would be a joint venture between the London parent and the three Scandinavian siblings. It all came about through the friendship between Peter Jones, an assistant director in the Montagu's corporate finance department, and Major John Leaning, chairman of the BSF's biathlon committee.

Leaning mentioned the plight of the Nordic side and from then on it snowballed. Braced with this news, the British team will take on the giants of the sport from the Soviet Union and Scandinavia at the Oberstdorf World Championships from February 12 to 21 with confidence added to their usual endeavour.

Football

Bedford settle for draw

Schools football by George Chesterton

At Bedford School the pitches are in fine condition despite first snow and then frost. Entertaining University College School, whose game was built on well-controlled passing, they earned for themselves a 1-1 draw.

UCS went one goal ahead when Adam Dickman volleyed in a rebound after 20 minutes. In the second half the greater fitness of the Bedford players began to tell and they equalised 15 minutes from the end.

Sr John's Leatherhead visited Brighton and despite being one down after 10 minutes pulled back to win 3-1. City School Perkins supplied the equaliser with a header just before half-time. There was little territorial advantage in the second half until the home team unluckily gave away an own goal. Thomas

NORDIC SKIING

Montagu bank on the British team

By Michael Coleman

One of the unexpected assets of Samuel Montagu, the merchant banker, is that through their Scandinavian connections, they now number several devotees of Nordic or cross-country skiing.

One such is Morten Aas, the managing director of Samuel Montagu AS, Oslo, who skied for Norway as a junior. Naturally enough, at a recent get-together of Montagu directors, the subject of pressing interest was not so much the state of play on the Scandinavian financial pitch but Morten's account of how he had faced the previous weekend in the Marica Lunga, Italy's renowned 60-mile mass cross-country race, which is comparable to the New York or London marathons.

He found a sympathetic ear in Anthony Arfvedson, executive director of the parent company, Samuel Montagu, of London, who, because he happens to be Swedish, is in the grip of the cross-country cult himself.

Hence, yesterday's announcement in London that Samuel Montagu are stepping in to sponsor British Nordic racers until the end of this pre-Olympic season comes as little surprise. A cheque for £34,000 was handed over to Tom Fitzpatrick, the chairman of the British Ski Federation.

The sponsorship comes on the eve of the World Championships in Oberstdorf, West Germany, and the money will also enable the cross-country squad to stay on the World Cup circuit until the end of the year. Much of the deficit incurred by the racers so far will also be wiped out.

Early-season training in Norway and the subsequent domicile racing on the Continent for those chosen for the squad - slimmered down this year for reason of economy - does not come cheap.

There is no immediate chance of Britain winning a medal, but the only people to have done so, through the banks we have set up in Stockholm, Oslo and Helsinki.

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BADMINTON

Baddeley pounces as Hall lets it slip

By Richard Eaton

Steve Baddeley, the Commonwealth champion, stumbled to within sight of defeat and then recovered to overcome Darren Hall, the titleholder, 11-15, 15-2, 15-2 in an exciting and unpredictable final of the Carlsberg English national championships at Crawley.

Baddeley thus justified the decision to make him favourite, but only just. For a game and a half Hall was not only the faster player, but he had been expected, but also the defender at the net, where he had unexpectedly managed to have many of the rallies contested.

Hall had done enough until he was leading 1-5 in the second game to make it a tense match. But when he lost tactical control, he lost the match almost immediately. Baddeley at last tore into him with a stream of those heavy attacks which, when they are going well, few players can answer.

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TENNIS

Bale beats a seed to fly the flag

Stuart Bale's upset win over a seed made him the only British player to survive the quarter-finals of the LTA men's Inter-Satellite indoor tournament at Queen's Club, London yesterday.

Bale's compatriots, Stephen Boldfield and Stephen Shaw, both fell at the same stage, but the big-serving left-hander reached the semi-finals with an impressive 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, win over Mike Tauson, the fourth seeded Dane, in 80 minutes.

The performance has enhanced the 23-year-old Londoner's chances of being selected for Britain's Davis Cup team for the difficult first round match in Mexico from March 13-15.

Bale, ranked 648th on the world list, is over 200 places below Tauson, but his powerful serve-and-volley was too powerful for his volatile opponent.

And the non-playing member of Britain's European Cup squad in Hanover last week, said: "I played a tight game today. It may not have been good to watch but it was effective."

"I'm doing the satellite circuit to gain computer points and climb the ranking list. I can't get into anything with my ranking."

Bale earned £200 for reaching tomorrow's semi-finals, where he meets Mike Gustavsson, the Swede who beat Shaw in a hard-fought match that went down to the wire.

It was a disappointing exit for the Briton, a former Davis Cup player, who had looked well in control after winning the first set 6-2. But his confidence disintegrated after he lost service twice early in the second set, and he slid out 6-2, 6-7 (0-7), 4-6.

Meanwhile, Boldfield, the promising 20-year-old from Essex, put up a spirited fight before losing 3-6, 4-5 to the third seed, Olivier Delaite of France.

Delaite meets Peter Fleming, the top seed, in tomorrow's semi-finals. Earlier, the American took two hours to beat Sweden's David Engel 6-3, 4-6, 6-1.

RESULTS: Singles: Quarter-finals (GB) Bale (648) d. Tauson (4) 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, 6-4; Boldfield (658) d. Gustavsson (591) 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, 6-4; Shaw (658) d. Tauson (4) 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, 6-4; Fleming (591) d. Engel (591) 6-3, 4-6, 6-1.

Mayotte in the mind to succeed

From Barry Wood Philadelphia

Tim Mayotte is a man with a conscience, and the guilt that has plagued him since his withdrawal from last year's final of the Ebel US Pro indoor tournament at Philadelphia's Spectrum Arena has rested heavily upon his shoulders.

This week, his determination to make amends to the people of the city spurred him to a 6-2, 7-6 second round victory over Gary Muller, a qualifier who was born in South Africa but now dwells in Beverly Hills.

In defeating first Jimmy Connors, and then Yannick Noah in 1986 to reach the final, Mayotte severely pulled stomach muscles and was forced to withdraw from his showdown with Ivan Lendl.

"The whole week focuses around the final. Everyone works towards it and the people anticipate it, and I felt very bad about not being able to play last year," the Stanford University graduate said. "That made me more determined this year to give 100 per cent."

Mayotte is also concerned at his poor form during the last six months and is determined to give his best performance.

ICE SKATING

Costumes lead in the dance

From Michael Coleman Sarajevo

With £1,500 worth of costume gliding past on each couple, it was difficult to concentrate on the steps when the European championships continued here yesterday with the compulsions opening the dancing.

As expected, the Soviet trio slid into a comfortable lead, headed by the champions, Natalya Bestemirnova and her partner, Andrei Bukin, who ran up enough 5.9s for their polka to send them into the record books. Attached to their train are the debatable Marina Klumova on the arm of her husband, Sergei Ponomarev, and Natalya Anonkina and Genrikh Stetsky.

Some way back, heading the battle for promotion from the second division, are the Austrians, Kathrin Beck and her brother, Christos, with the West Germans, Antonia and Ferdinand Becher, another sister-brother twosome, breathing down their skates.

Now that we are well out of the Torvill-Dean era, it has to be said that the eighth place occupied by the British champions, Sharon Jones and Paul Askim, is progress. Their trained Joan Slater, pointed to the absence of any Britons on the judges' panel, having drawn reserve. "Too many from the Eastern bloc," she observed.

ICE DANCING (after compulsory dance): 1. N. Bestemirnova & A. Bukin (USSR) 9 judges' placements, 26.50; 2. V. Klumova & S. Ponomarev (USSR) 27.00; 3. K. Beck & C. Christos (FRG) 27.00; 4. G. Stetsky & N. Anonkina (USSR) 27.00; 5. A. Becher & F. Becher (FRG) 27.00; 6. K. Beck & C. Christos (FRG) 27.00; 7. A. Becher & F. Becher (FRG) 27.00; 8. K. Beck & C. Christos (FRG) 27.00; 9. A. Becher & F. Becher (FRG) 27.00; 10. K. Beck & C. Christos (FRG) 27.00.

Revenge is complete as the man who lost the America's Cup regains it for the United States

Conner completes a Cup sweep

From Barry Pickthall, Fremantle

Dennis Conner completed "some unfinished business" in the most uncompromising fashion yesterday, sweeping aside the inaugural Australian defence to win back the America's Cup.

He lost to Alan Bond's Australia II in 1983 in a 4-0 rout that statisticians here say is the fastest series since Volunteer saw off the challenge from Britain's Thistle 100 years ago.

The final margin yesterday, 1m 59sec, was the largest during this series, highlighting the total domination in technology, skill, defence, inaction and experience Conner and his 10 man crew have held first over the 12 other challengers and then Iain Murray and his hapless Australian crew aboard Kookaburra III.

The victorious Stars and Stripes crew were towed back to Fremantle shaded by a huge American flag hoisted on the yardarm of her tender, while pandemonium broke out along the dock as 50,000 spectators paid tribute to their old adversary.

"Well done Dennis Conner — you old bastard" was one of many banners that summed up the grudging respect many Australians have for his ability in 12-metre sailing. Among the well-wishers were President Reagan and his wife Nancy who sent a message of congratulations, which included a personal invitation to Conner and his crew to visit the White House on the arrival home.

The loss of the cup in 1983 hit Conner hard. It was the lowest point in his otherwise illustrious sailing career which includes two Star world championship crowns, an Olympic bronze medal, countless successes in the offshore racing world, and two successful 12-metre campaigns.

Villified by the press and public along with the New York Yacht Club for their dirty tricks and allegations against the Dutch and their collaboration with Australia in assisting with the design of

Ben Lexcen's radical wing-keeled challenger Australia II, Conner slunk home to San Diego, shunning all publicity. Many believed he would then fade from the scene to concentrate on his drapery business, but all underestimated the hidden resources of this complex, shy 44-year-old sailor.

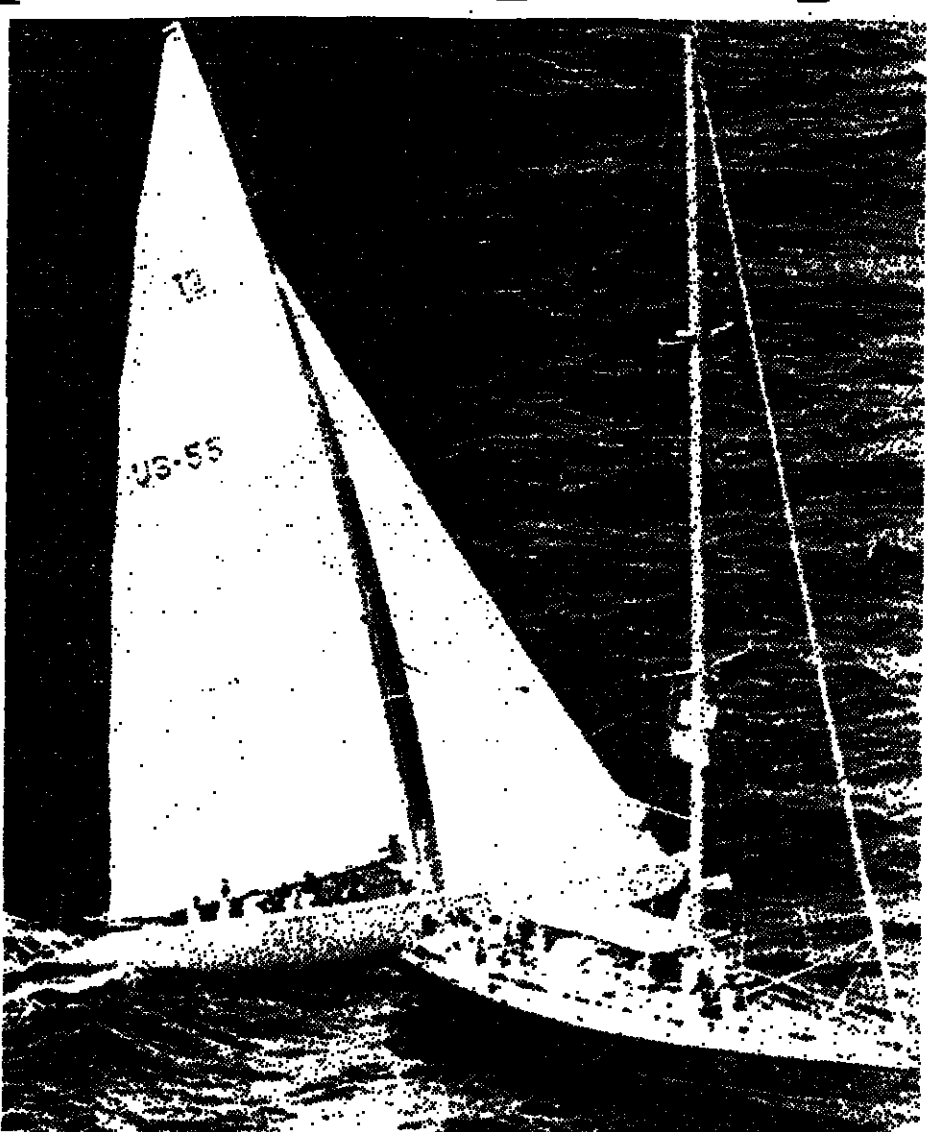
After being turned out by the New York Yacht Club who chose as their champion the then up-and-coming John Kofas as their standard bearer, the 12-metre maestro turned to his own local club in San Diego to set up a separate challenge for the cup. It was a challenge that began with a fresh piece of paper, nullifying the thoughts of a four-man design team brought together and headed by former North Sails president, John Marshall.

Another change in Conner's battle plans was to delegate rather than oversee every last detail as he had done during the ill-fated \$US4 million campaign with Liberty in 1983. "When you try to run the whole thing yourself you are forced to make many more quick judgements. It's like giving a guy a wooden yardstick and asking him to go out and measure the wavelengths of light. He can be Einstein and still have a hard time," said Marshall.

Yesterday's cup winner however came late in conception — an afterthought almost, when it was realized that their plans had not taken account of the light weather that can prevail in Gage Roads when the local sea breeze is called, he said.

The boat Stars and Stripes '87 proved a radical departure from the lines of other challengers — and defenders who, with the exception of the Tom Blackaller skippered USA had all followed Lexcen's Australia II design.

To start with, the boat proved a formidable competitor in heavy weather during the initial trials in October but surprisingly weak in lighter conditions. After losing seven



Conner was reported to say: "If we don't get wind soon we'll be back home by Christmas."

How much of this was a ruse to disguise Stars and Stripes' potential is still uncertain. But at a press conference yesterday, Conner admitted: "We didn't show all our cards from the beginning. That's part of the game and part of our strategy."

It was also part of his strategy yesterday not to reveal all, even after winning the Cup, for when his boat was lifted out of the water for the benefit of the press, her stubby

wings remained tantalisingly hidden from view.

The keel on Stars and Stripes has been dubbed by the Americans as the Jimmy Durante nose shape to its forward edge. However, the secret of Stars and Stripes' performance appears to be in her Delta shaped wings which are very different to the "maxispanners" used on most of the other challengers including Kookaburra III.

In yesterday's final encounter Kookaburra's helmsman Peter Gilmore pressed Conner hard and came close to

pushing the American boat over the line early.

Conner, however, managed to stall his progress and clear the buoy moments after the gun fired leaving Kookaburra in her wake.

Rounding the weather mark 26sec ahead, Stars and Stripes lost a little ground on the following run, but regained the initiative on the second beat and slowly increased her margin from 42sec at the second weather mark to finish to the tumultuous sounds of horns, shouts and whistles from the large spectator fleet 1m 59sec ahead.

The victory that changed the face of San Diego

From Rick Ostrow, San Diego

More than 1,000 eager supporters crammed into the Yacht Club here to watch Dennis Conner, their club's former commodore and now celebrity skipper, return the America's Cup to its titular home.

They cheered every mention of their club by the television commentators; they counted, in unison, the seconds separating Stars and Stripes from Kookaburra III at each mark, and they exploded dutifully in mock pandemonium each time the lights signalled they were back on national TV.

Sure, the yachting crowd was well represented at the barbecue-corporation — blazered and groomed, nursing their drinks through the non-drama of the fourth and final race, exchanging knowing comments as Conner's crew opened an imposing lead.

But it was not the regulars who made this event notable. It was the outsiders, the boisterous non-members.

If it was not quite the cup mania the press had so breathlessly proclaimed, it was also clear that the event had moved as far culturally from San Diego as it had geographically. And if many San Diegans still found watching the late-night 12-metre yacht races exciting as watching paint dry, the saturation newspaper coverage had, at least, alerted them to the fact that something significant was transpiring.

The club had all the trappings of a patriotic sporting event. Red, white and blue was everywhere, from the balloons on the ceiling to the costumes of the revelers. Hand-painted signs and t-shirts proclaimed the day's message: "Future home of America's Cup." "Say Gbye to

Gday," and "Throw another Kookaburra on the barbie." "If America hadn't lost the cup, people here wouldn't care about this race," Tim Larsen, a local college student, said. "Now it has become a rivalry, and to get the cup back is suddenly a big thing. But there's interest and there's excitement. And despite the scene at the Yacht Club, no one was contending that the city was ignited as it would be by either a World Series or a Super Bowl."

Once victory was assured, talk turned to the defence of the cup, which must be staged in the United States in four years. San Diego is only one of seven cities, including Newport, Honolulu and three others in California, to have already expressed interest in hosting the defence, and is hardly the best suited.

The climate is said to lack the high winds ideal for 12-metre racing and the port facilities, needed to house the two dozen syndicates expected to mount a challenge, are sorely lacking. But given the estimated \$100 million (about \$660 million) the event is expected to pump into the local economy, city officials should do everything possible to come up with the estimated \$25 million needed to prepare the city for a cup defence.

"We will make the support available and have the cup in San Diego," the Mayor, Maureen O'Connor, who naturally attended the Yacht Club affair, promised. But her city faces opposition from a former America's Cup competitor, Halcyon Herreshoff, who has been appointed by the governor of Rhode Island, Edward DiPrete, to head a consortium that will challenge the San Diego Yacht Club that Newport remains the best site for the cup.

Hawaii attracts interest

The America's Cup is expected to leave Perth with Dennis Conner aboard the presidential jet, Air Force One, bound for San Diego this weekend, but the next series of races in 1991 will not necessarily be sailed off his home port (Barry Pickthall writes).

Fred Fry, Commodore of the San Diego Yacht Club said yesterday that a committee would be set up within 30 days to view alternative venues such as Hawaii, Atlantic City and San Francisco and a decision will be made known within 90 days.

FOOTBALL: ENGLAND FORWARD CHANGES TO BRITISH FIRM FOR FOOTWEAR

Lineker hoping his new £1m boots are made for scoring

By Stuart Jones Football Correspondent

Gary Lineker yesterday officially announced that he had been transferred in a deal that may make him £1m. He has moved not from Barcelona, where he is the Spanish club's leading goal scorer, but from Adidas to Quasar, a new British company which is based in the West Midlands.

At the end of last November Everitt Plater, Quasar's chairman, managing director, asked for Lineker's assistance in the development of "a new football shoe." He agreed to help with the design and Adidas, by mutual consent, allowed him to break a contract that was to end in the summer.

"Adidas are so big that they don't need me," Lineker said before going to the press to announce the deal. "I have a much closer interest in Quasar and it is nice to be involved with a British firm. I think it is an exciting enterprise."

It will be lucrative as well. Plater stated that Lineker can expect to earn "deep into six figures" over the next five years. He is guaranteed as much as £100,000. England's captain who last summer signed a similar deal with New Balance that was said to be worth "possibly £1m."

The success of the boots.



Lineker: 'golden' boot

which range in price from under £25 to over £50, will determine how richly Lineker is eventually to be rewarded. Plater estimates that Quasar need to capture three per cent of the market (or in other words, to sell 500,000 pairs) to break even.

He expects that target to be reached comfortably within the next two years. Such has been the immediate interest that "the biggest chain store in Britain," as he put it, has already put in an order for 1,000 pairs, which should be on offer in April.

Lineker, the epitome of modesty in spite of his global fame, was chosen for his "clean, reliable and wholesome image." Astonishingly, he has yet even to be booked in a career that

began at Leicester City eight years ago. He readily conceded that his unblemished record may not last much longer.

"I can keep my temper and I have been lucky so far but you can get your name taken for the most trivial things in Spain. Half of the Barcelona team, including Hughes, have been cautioned at least four times this season. Over there, that means an automatic two-match suspension."

Plater "had something to do with making Kevin Keegan a millionaire." The two were linked with Patrick another boot manufacturer, and he sees a close similarity between the past and present England internationals. "They are both appealing and elegant characters. The only difference is that Gary has longer legs."

Lineker is flattered to be linked with a player whose boots he once himself wore. "I had a pair of Alan Ball's, those white ones. I think everybody had a pair of those. My hero was Frank Worthington but I don't think he was ever invited to endorse footwear."

And the owner of two golden boots, awarded in recognition of his scoring feats at Everton last season and in the World Cup finals, Lineker now has a brand new Quasar. The epitome of modesty in spite of his global fame, was chosen for his "clean, reliable and wholesome image." Astonishingly, he has yet even to be booked in a career that

FC Porto suffer cup blow

From John Ballantine, Honolulu

FC Porto, the European Cup quarter-finalists from Portugal, will be without their Polish World Cup goalkeeper, Jozef Mlynarczyk, for a month after he was injured during their 4-0 victory against the French club Bordeaux in a friendly on Tuesday night.

Mlynarczyk, aged 33, fractured a hand in a collision with the French club's Portuguese international Fernando Chalaza just before the end of the match.

FC Porto play their first leg European Cup game against the Danish side Brondby, on March 4.

Troubled Atletico Madrid, once again overwhelmed by their neighbours Real in the Spanish League, have named Luis Aragonés as their fourth coach in six months. The club's board have formally approved the appointment of the man who was forced to resign at the start of the season because he was suffering from severe depression.

Aragonés was replaced by Vicente Miras and lasted only 13 matches, and then by his long-serving deputy Jesus Martinez Jayo. Atletico are still only fifth in the first division, 11 points behind Real.

Joe Jordan, Southampton's Scottish international, has agreed to join the third division club, Bristol City, until the end of the season. No fee will be involved in the deal.

GOLF

Langer yet to rank among the greats

From John Ballantine, Honolulu

The trick of winning tournaments is to keep getting into position to do so; eventually one will drop into your lap. This theory may seem self-evident but luck may still be a requisite and Bernhard Langer is very much hoping that fortune will smile upon him in the Hawaiian Open which starts on the par 72, 6,975-yard Waialae course here today.

This is Langer's fourth season in America. He won \$82,465 (about £154,000) in 1984, \$271,044 in 1985, \$379,800 last year and so far he has extracted \$132,000 from the three tournaments in which he has played this season and stands second behind his close friend, Corey Pavin as will be seen from the current money list below.

The point is that Langer has won only two events in these four years, the US Masters and the Sea Pines Heritage Classic in successive glorious weeks in April 1985. Americans place great stress on winning at all costs and Langer's critics in the recent Americas Cup and so many of Langer's peers here are hesitant to place the German alongside top American players like Greg Norman.

"Langer isn't quite there yet, he's in an embryonic stage," says the tour's "guru," Mac O'Grady, who is true but Langer, for all his huge financial success, has fallen several times at the

last hurdle, rather in the manner that Payne Stewart has formed a habit of doing and did so again to lose narrowly to Johnny Miller at Pebble Beach on Sunday.

Last year, the German lost a play-off to Bob Tway at San Diego, he was second to Ken Green at the International event in Colorado and he finished third here behind Pavin and Paul Azinger. So far this season, he has lost to Pavin's last hole birdie at the Pebble Beach Classic and after failing to qualify in Phoenix, he was third at Pebble Beach on Sunday after being joint leader with Stewart at 10 under par after ten holes. His time surely is nigh. Meanwhile he is laughing all the way to the bank.

On Sunday night, Langer flies to Australia, only ten hours west, for the Masters, partly to support Mark McCormack's organisation. Mr McCormack's criticism in a current golf magazine about the "fat cat" attitude of many allegedly overpaid and self-satisfied US pros has got the pigeon cotes all a flutter here.

What cannot be disputed is that the Sony world rankings put Langer, Norman, Langer, and Japan's Tommy Nakajima on top. Ballesteros and Greg Norman. Langer is a contender to win the 1988 Senior PGA Championship and the 1989 Senior PGA Championship. He is also a contender to win the 1988 Senior PGA Championship and the 1989 Senior PGA Championship.

FOR THE RECORD

BADMINTON

CRAWLEY: Carsten English national champion; Maria Gould (GB) d. S. Badcock (GB) 15-7; Women's doubles: M. Gould & S. Badcock (GB) d. M. Gould & S. Badcock (GB) 15-7; M. Gould & S. Badcock (GB) d. M. Gould & S. Badcock (GB) 15-7.

CROSS COUNTRY

MALDEN: RAF championships: 8's winner: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

CYCLING

COPENHAGEN: International day race: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP: 1st round: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

SKIING

ASAP: 1st round: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

SQUASH RACKETS

AMERICAN EXPRESS PREMIER LEAGUE: 1st round: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

SWIMMING

EAST BURLING: International meeting: 1st round: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

TENNIS

LYONS: Grand Prix tournament: 1st round: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

RUGBY UNION

Marine Livingstone a five-star general

By Peter Marson

Oxford University 9
Royal Navy 13

The Royal Navy's pack, with Livingstone at the heart of it, at scrum-half proving to be an admirable general once again, held the key to a rewarding, if narrow, victory against Oxford University whom they beat by a goal and a penalty goal at Ilfeld Road yesterday.

Injuries and unavailability meant that the Navy had been obliged to make seven changes to the side which had beaten Cambridge in their last match, and well though Keillett played in the centre before his retirement at the end of the first half, the Navy clearly missed Whittington, Livingstone's erstwhile partner at stand-off half.

Oxford turned round at the halfway mark, leading by 9-6. Yet they seemed to be a shade ill at ease in the tight scrums and, of course, the Navy were quick to take advantage here. But Oxford's insistence on running with the ball, and even from the unlikely position, often stretched the Navy's defence.

The Navy made an encouraging start when their forwards, making off down the left flank, set up a try for Lee, to which Boon added a line conversion from the edge of touch.

SNOW REPORTS

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and A to artificial.

ITALY: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

FRANCE: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

SPAIN: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

GERMANY: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

NETHERLANDS: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

SWITZERLAND: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

AUSTRIA: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

CZECH REPUBLIC: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

SLOVAKIA: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

SLOVENIA: 1. M. Gould (GB) 2. S. Badcock (GB) 3. M. Gould (GB) 4. S. Badcock (GB) 5. M. Gould (GB) 6. S. Badcock (GB) 7. M. Gould (GB) 8. S. Badcock (GB) 9. M. Gould (GB) 10. S. Badcock (GB).

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Edited by Peter Dear
and Christopher Davalle

The elixir of British life



Stirring stuff: tea lady Edna on her rounds (BBC2, 9.30pm)

"Well look Maisie," says dear old Jack Warner in some moment of crisis in the British cinema. "I think we could all do with a nice cup of tea." As the 40 Minutes programme *Stirring Stuff* (BBC2, 9.30pm) reminds us, tea is very much part of the British psyche. We are by far the biggest tea drinkers in the world, sinking 196 million cups a day, and tea has produced its own mythology. It was tea that got us through the Blitz and it keeps us going still. Tea is triumphantly oblivious to sex and class. Well-heeled couples dress up for Tea Dances at the Waldorf and the Tea Lady is an enduring institution, even if she is coming under threat from automatic vending machines. Even the feminists seem to have laid off the tea lady, a salt-of-the-earth soul

CHOICE

dispensing cups and good cheer who always seems to be called Alice or Dolly. It is difficult to disagree with the verdict of the wartime WVS that next to blood tea is Britain's most precious liquid. This is 40 Minutes at its most effective, not aiming too high, constantly diverting and just a trifle dotty.

● A *Question of Sport* notches up its 200th edition (BBC1, 8.25pm) and to celebrate the occasion one of the guests is Princess Anne. The success of the programme lies in its appeal (judging by the healthy ratings) not only to sporting buffs but to people who normally cannot abide sport, and think television carries far too much of

it. A quiz which slots in happily between the rigours of *Mastermind* and the inanity of the game show, *A Question of Sport* offers half an hour of undemanding entertainment with two well contrasted resident comedians in the frenetic Emyl Hughes and the lugubrious Bill Beaumont. ITV's disastrous attempt to adapt the formula to *Sporting Triangles* only demonstrates just how good the formula is.

● The radio highlight is the first performance, 300 years after it was written, of Scarlatti's opera, *Una Villa di Tuscolo* (Radio 3, 7.30pm). The victim of a papal ban on secular entertainments, it was discovered last year in the Vatican library.

Peter Waymark



Royal celebrations: Princess Anne joins in A Question of Sport for its 200th edition (BBC1, 8.25 pm)

BBC1

- 6.30** *Cee-fax AM*, 6.55 *Weather*, 7.00 *Breakfast Time* with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusson, and Jeremy Paxman. National and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30. regional news and traffic reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15. *Weekend Update* at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.
- 8.40** *Watchdog*, Lynn Faulds Wood and John Stapleton investigate consumer complaints. 8.55 *Regional news and weather*.
- 9.00** *News and weather*, 9.05 *Day to Day*, with Robert Kilroy Gibb. 9.45 *Advice Show*, Margo MacDonald investigates the help on offer to people who suffer long-term sickness or industrial injury.
- 10.00** *News and weather*, 10.05 *Neighbours*, (r) 10.25 *Children's BBC*, Programme details, 10.30 *Play School*, (r) 10.50 *For the Love of the Game*, (r) 10.55 *News and weather*, 11.00 *Open Air* includes news and weather at 12.00. *The Top O'Connors*, Roadshow, Variety show from Portsmouth Guildhall. With Debbie Greenwood. 12.35 *Regional news and weather*.
- 1.00** *One O'Clock News* with Martin Lewis, 1.25 *Neighbours*, Terry reveals her past to Shane, 1.50 *The Plumpies*, (r).
- 2.05** *Film: The Green Man* (1955) starring Alastair Sim, George Cole, and Terry-Thomas. Delightful comedy about a mild-mannered assassin who has his latest venture foiled by a bungling salesman. Directed by Robert Day. 3.50 *Sketch, the Red Fox*, The first of a two-part programme portrait of a fox cub born to an ageing veteran on the Somerset Wiltshire. (r).
- 3.50** *The Adventures of Bulfinch*

BBC2

- 9.00** *Cee-fax*, 9.30 *Daytime*, Two basic German language courses. 9.55 *Sex education* for eight- to 10-year-olds, 10.15 *Science*, fish 10.30 *Hillier's* rise to power between 1933 and 1956. 11.00 *Thinkabout*, 11.15 *Living with a handicap*, and an Asian girl experiences a clash of cultures. 11.40 *The everyday life of a working girl* living in a poor part of a large Brazilian city.
- 12.12** *First World War veterans* recall their time in the trenches. 12.35 *Science*, why atoms join together to form molecules. 1.05 *A French for beginners* course. 1.35 *Sea trading*, 1.50 *News and weather*, 2.05 *Making things*, move 2.15 *Music*, melody.
- 2.35** *The Collectors*, Adam McLaughlin, who has been collecting children's street songs and games for more than two decades, (first shown on BBC Scotland).
- 3.00** *News and weather*, 3.05 *Antiques Roadshow*, Hugh Scully and his team of experts visit Bath, (r) (Cee-fax).
- 3.50** *News, regional news, and weather*.
- 4.00** *Pamela Armstrong*, 4.30 *Small World*, Modelmaker Arthur New from Devon who specialises in making figurines in miniature, (r).
- 4.40** *A Taste of Life*, Derek Davis visits the Llangrann Fair at Ballycastle, (first shown on BBC Northern Ireland).
- 5.05** *My Music*, Musical quiz presented by Steve Race, with Frank Muir, John Amis, Denis Norden, and Ian Wallace, (r).
- 5.30** *Film 87*, (r).
- 6.00** *Mission Impossible*, The team of undercover agents do battle with an evil prison commandant who has in his possession a priceless Inca treasure, (r).
- 6.50** *World Starling*, *Championships*, The Women's Giant Slalom, Call My Bluff presented by Robert Robinson, Frank Muir and Arthur Marshall are joined by Angharad Davies, Nigel Havers, Lynsey de Paul, and Julian Pepler.
- 8.10** *Bookmark* presented by Ian Hamilton, Two African writers are examined this month: Nuruddin Farah, a Somali; and Doris Lessing, from Sophiatown, South Africa.
- 9.00** *The Mists of Time*, Comedy series starring Felicity Kendal, Peter McEnery, and Jane Farrow.
- 9.30** *40 Minutes: Stirring Stuff*, A documentary in celebration of tea and the influence it has had, and still has, on our society, (Cee-fax).
- 10.10** *European Figure Skating Championships*, The Men's Free Programme.
- 10.55** *Newsnight* 11.45 *Weather*, 11.50 *Late Night Music*, Linda Baranofsky plays Piano Sonata no 10, op 14 No 2, Ends at 12.15.

ITV LONDON

- 6.15** *TV-am* presented by Richard Kaye, 6.45 *News at 6.45* and 6.55 *news at 6.55*, sport at 6.40 and exercises at 6.55.
- 7.00** *Good Morning Britain* presented by Anne Diamond and Mike Morris, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; cartoon at 7.25; sport at 7.40; pop music at 7.55; and viewers' letters at 8.55. After Nine includes Claire Rayner's agony column; and, at 9.17, exercises with Lizzie Webb.
- 9.25** *Thames news headlines*, 9.30 *Schools: how a School*, television programme is made. 9.42 *Learning to read* with Bill Oddie. 9.54 *How exercise* contributes to good health. 10.11 *A film to stimulate* creative work. 10.25 *Mistake* between a West Indian pupil and a racist teacher. 11.03 *Episode* of two interferences, a ghost story by Ian Mark. 11.20 *Designing a car* to reduce injury in case of an accident. 11.37 *How We Used to Live*, The year of the Armistice.
- 12.00** *Creepy Crawly*, The story of The Day the Sky Fell In, (r) 12.10 *Puddle Lane*, Puppet series. 12.30 *The Sullivans*, News at One with Leonard Parkin. 1.20 *Thames news*, 1.30 *Falcon Crest*, Drama serial starring Jane Wyman as the matriarch of a California wine business. 2.25 *Home Cakes*, Club, Monday's *Munch*, (r).
- 2.30** *Daytime*, Sarah Kennedy chairs a discussion on how far investigative journalists should go. Among those taking part are Duncan Campbell, Peregrine Worsthorne, and Maurice Frankel. 3.00 *Take Six* Cooks, Jane Grigson proposes a vegetable. (r) 3.25 *Thames news headlines*, 3.30 *Some and Daughters*, Family drama serial.
- 4.00** *The Raggy Dolls*, (r) 4.10 *Satellite*, (r) 4.20 *The Wind in*

- the Willows. 4.45 *The Stenders*, (r) 4.50 *The Book Tower* presented by Bernard Bresslaw, (Oracle).
- 5.15** *Connections*, Quiz game for sixth formers, presented by Sue Robble.
- 5.45** *News with Alastair Stewart*
- 6.00** *Thames news*, 6.00 *Help! Viv Taylor* Gae with a benefits up-date.
- 6.25** *Crossroads*, 6.30 *Emmerdale Farm*, Graham comes out of hiding and asks Kathy Bates for help.
- 7.30** *Comedy*, Comedy series about two couples on a package holiday in Spain. This evening David picks up the wrong bag at the airport and lands himself in a little legal trouble, (r) (Oracle).
- 8.00** *Newer the Twin*, Comedy with Donald Sinden and Windsor Davies as rival antiques dealers, this evening being held at gunpoint by two desperate criminals, (Oracle).
- 8.30** *Minder: Second Hand Pose*, Terry decides to have nothing more to do with Arthur after he is nearly frozen to death in a locked storage room, (r) (Oracle).
- 9.30** *This Week: Drugs in Prison*, A report on the ease with which prison inmates are able to obtain drugs and on how visitors and prisoners manage to smuggle the narcotics inside.
- 10.00** *News at Ten* with Alastair Burnet and Carol Barnes. Weather followed by Thames news headlines.
- 10.30** *Ice Skating*, Nick Owen introduces coverage of the European Figure Skating Championships.
- 11.30** *The Jews in London*, This third of four programmes includes interviews with three survivors.
- 12.00** *Kojak*, A policeman's wife is kidnapped by a drugs baron who is facing prosecution.
- 12.55** *Night Thoughts*.

CHANNEL 4

- 2.15** *Their Lordships' House*, A repeat of last night's programme of highlights of the day's proceedings in the House of Lords.
- 2.30** *Film: The Best Man* (1964) starring Henry Fonda, Cliff Robertson, and Edie Adams. Two American presidential rivals vie for the endorsement of the dying incumbent. Directed by Franklin Schaffner.
- 4.20** *Equinox: Rides Again*, Cartoon.
- 4.30** *Countdown*, Yesterday's winner is challenged by George Telford from Jersey. Richard Whitley is the questionmaster.
- 5.00** *Ice Skating*, Nick Owen introduces coverage of the European Figure Skating Championships. The commentators at the Zetra Hall, Sarajevo, are Simon Reed, Betty Callaway, and Nicky Slater.
- 6.00** *Film: The Remarkable Rocket* (1975) A cartoon film, based on a story by Oscar Wilde, about fireworks. Narrated by David Niven, with Graham Stark. Directed by Gerald Potterton.
- 6.30** *Union World* includes an examination of the Government's Restart programme for the unemployed; and the results of a poll to find out how involved trades unionists should be at the next general election. The first of a new series.
- 7.00** *Channel 4 News* with Peter Sissons and Nicholas Owen, includes a report from Glasgow on the current political scene in Scotland.
- 7.50** *Comment*, A member of the public with views on a topical matter, *Weather*.
- 8.00** *Opinions: The Red Flag*, The fourth and final programme of the series and Robert Siskind, Professor of International Studies at Warwick University, presents a critical appraisal of Labour governments and argues that democratic socialists are destined to fail.
- 8.30** *Equinox: The Tin Snail*, A documentary about that remarkable French motor car, the Citroën CVT, born on the drawing board 50 years ago and first sold in 1948, (r).
- 9.30** *Film on 4 - Take 2: Sacred Hearts* (1984) starring Anna Massey. A comedy drama set in a strict convent orphanage at the start of the Second World War, based on the experiences of the film's writer and director, Barbara Rennie, (Crackles).
- 11.15** *A Tale of Two Sisters*, A documentary giving a glimpse of what life was like for Europeans living in China at the beginning of the century. Their Londoner Host, David Walter presents highlights of the day's proceedings in the House of Lords. Ends at 12.25.

VARIATIONS

- BBC1** *Wales*, 6.55 *News*, 7.00 *Wales*, 7.30 *Wales*, 7.55 *Wales*, 8.00 *Wales*, 8.15 *Wales*, 8.30 *Wales*, 8.45 *Wales*, 8.55 *Wales*, 9.00 *Wales*, 9.15 *Wales*, 9.30 *Wales*, 9.45 *Wales*, 9.55 *Wales*, 10.00 *Wales*, 10.15 *Wales*, 10.30 *Wales*, 10.45 *Wales*, 10.55 *Wales*, 11.00 *Wales*, 11.15 *Wales*, 11.30 *Wales*, 11.45 *Wales*, 11.55 *Wales*, 12.00 *Wales*, 12.15 *Wales*, 12.30 *Wales*, 12.45 *Wales*, 12.55 *Wales*, 1.00 *Wales*, 1.15 *Wales*, 1.30 *Wales*, 1.45 *Wales*, 1.55 *Wales*, 2.00 *Wales*, 2.15 *Wales*, 2.30 *Wales*, 2.45 *Wales*, 2.55 *Wales*, 3.00 *Wales*, 3.15 *Wales*, 3.30 *Wales*, 3.45 *Wales*, 3.55 *Wales*, 4.00 *Wales*, 4.15 *Wales*, 4.30 *Wales*, 4.45 *Wales*, 4.55 *Wales*, 5.00 *Wales*, 5.15 *Wales*, 5.30 *Wales*, 5.45 *Wales*, 5.55 *Wales*, 6.00 *Wales*, 6.15 *Wales*, 6.30 *Wales*, 6.45 *Wales*, 6.55 *Wales*, 7.00 *Wales*, 7.15 *Wales*, 7.30 *Wales*, 7.45 *Wales*, 7.55 *Wales*, 8.00 *Wales*, 8.15 *Wales*, 8.30 *Wales*, 8.45 *Wales*, 8.55 *Wales*, 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Robson is poised to return after six-week absence

By Steve Bates

Bryan Robson is poised to present England manager Bobby Robson with a dilemma this weekend when he returns to senior action for Manchester United at Charlton after a six-week absence.

England's most influential footballer stepped back into first division combat having recovered from the latest hamstring damage sustained against Norwich on December 27 which renewed fears over his long-term future in the game. But his inclusion in the United side has given the international manager a thorny problem as he prepares to name his squad to meet Spain in a friendly on February 18.

If United's midfield inspiration successfully comes through his return at Charlton Robson senior will be tempted to restore the player to the national team — if only as a morale-boosting exercise. But with the England manager having already declared his intention to keep faith, injuries permitting, with the side which defeated Yugoslavia in November's European Championship match.

Barnsley put the strike behind them

By Martin Searby

It has taken a long time for the Yorkshire town of Barnsley to recover from the crippling effects of the miners' strike which brought such despondency and hardship that it threatened to put the local football club out of business.

Gates at Oakwell slumped to such an alarming low that only the £215,000 sale of David Hirst to Sheffield Wednesday made life possible, leaving Allan Clarke, the manager, to survive in the second division with inexperienced youngsters.

But when Barnsley go to Highbury to meet Arsenal, the Cup favourites, they will be tackling the best side in the country with traditional Yorkshire toughness, knowing that the club has turned the corner.

The bumper pay day will bring in £50,000 to add to the cash taken from four earlier matches in the competition and give Clarke perhaps the opportunity to buy the seasoned player his team needs.

"This club has always been proud of its good

housekeeping," he says. "They are not the sort of people to put themselves in a hole to buy flash players or pay fancy wages. Every club needs the money a good Cup run brings in but in our case it has been a lifeline, one, I might add, that we thoroughly deserved after the character shown by my young players."

Among those are Michael Clarke, aged 18, who walks, talks and comes from the same part of the black country as his famous mentor but is no relation and John MacDonald, the same age, neither of whom had played League football until this season.

It will, of course, be a big day out for the town that has rediscovered its pride and football club to the extent of making Tuesday's attendance against Aldershot the second highest of the season. "We may not be as good as Arsenal but we will be able to hold our heads up and that has always been pretty important to the people round here," says the Barnsley manager.

Dalglish faces charge

Kenny Dalglish could yet face an FA charge of bringing the game into disrepute over last month's Luton outburst. The FA have decided to act after all following Dalglish's comments in the wake of Liverpool's bitter third round Cup defeat at Kenilworth Road.

"The Luton-Liverpool business is being looked at by an FA Challenge Cup sub-committee," confirmed an FA spokesman. Dalglish was angry that his side lost a second replay — especially as Luton failed to arrive for the original return date at Anfield.

fully dealt with a similar injury suffered by the Olympic champion.

Both Ferguson and his captain are now hoping for a run free from injury but Robson still insists he will not change the style which makes him alarmingly vulnerable to mishaps. "This latest injury was to a different part of the muscle and unconnected with anything previously," Robson said. "It was just a freak accident, but if I ever reach the point where I have to consider adopting different tactics it will be time to pack in."

Since Robson's latest setback United's season has crumbled, culminating last Saturday in their exit from the FA Cup, and Ferguson is anxious to have Robson back so he can fully assess the shape of the side when his most influential player is in the side.

"I want the club to finish in fifth or sixth place this season, so there is still plenty to play for," Ferguson said. "If British clubs were to be allowed back into Europe at the end of this season we would want to be in a position to be included in next season's competitions."

Newcastle sign up Craig

Newcastle have signed the Hamilton midfielder player Albert Craig for around £100,000. The 25-year-old has signed a two-and-a-half year contract with the club, and he goes straight into the squad for Saturday's home game with Luton Town.

Newcastle manager Willie McFaul said that he had been on the trail of Craig for several weeks.

Oldham's leading marksman Ron Fletcher, who has scored 15 goals this season, was transferred yesterday to a club in the second division after being sent off in Saturday's defeat by Blackburn Rovers.

Fletcher (30) was dismissed in the last minute for "violent conduct" and the Oldham manager Joe Royle said: "It is not the first time his temper has got the better of him and enough is enough."

Charlton Athletic have agreed to sell the captain Mark Aldwood to second division Leeds United for £200,000. Aldwood is having talks with Leeds but has yet to agree personal terms. A Welsh international, he joined Charlton four years ago from Luton and has made 170 appearances. Tyne Chariton manager, Lennie Lawrence said: "We've won only once in the last 15 games and need some new faces."

Another Charlton player, George Shipley, is considering a £30,000 transfer to third division Bristol City but looks likely to reject the move.



Family favourite: Dennis Conner is given a warm dockside welcome by his daughters, Jodie (left), Shanna and wife Judy.

Conner's winning ways leave rivals floundering in his wake

"No Excuse to Lose."

That's the motto Dennis Conner lives and sails by. He is desperately competitive, magnanimous in victory, yet hard on himself when losing. The thoroughness and consistency of his racing campaigns in leaving no stone unturned are traits inherited from his German ancestors, of whom he is very proud.

But even all that would not be enough to reach the eminence he has in 12-metre sailing. It is his other talents as an organizer and leader, coupled with a sharp analytical mind, that have set him above the rest.

Always confident and often arrogant, he has a habit of using people without consideration. Yet the magnetism of the man and his winning ways have attracted a hard core of professionals to his team, and they have stood by him for two, three and even four America's Cup campaigns.

While socially competent, he is on many occasions boorish, too. With the Press, he can charm, particularly when he wants something or is when tired and emotional, he appears nervous, often displaying an aggressive and unhelpful attitude. He's a man who is very American in his values.

On the other hand, Dennis

In an article exclusive to *The Times*, Harold Cudmore, captain of the British challenger, analyses Dennis Conner's amazing success in the America's Cup



Conner has a definite talent to sell himself and was one of the most successful among the American syndicates in raising the enormous funds necessary for this successful campaign (£10 million) despite the restrictions on advertising which limited severely what sponsors could gain in return.

On the boat, he likes a constant flow of tactical information regarding the relative position of his opponent and variations in wind strength and direction. He also gets regular calls from the trimmers, keeping everyone on their toes. He listens to this advice but makes the decisions himself — occasionally with disastrous results!

In the deciding race of the 1983 America's Cup, his tactics went against advice, allowing Australia II to get ahead and win the Cup. In 1985 he chose to take a shortcut between two rocks in Newport Harbour during the American Admiral's Cup tri-

als, ran aground, and lost a certain place in the team. But more often, he calls correct — sometimes brilliant — decisions that achieve winning results.

Sailing against him in past match-racing championships, including the Congressional Cup, I found him a man of method and easy to read, if allowed to start the way he wishes — often a timed run to the line with some seconds in hand — he is expert at judging distance, speed and time. If this can be prevented by his opponent — manoeuvring closely, he can often misjudge his start.

On the course he has an instinct for windshifts and works the boat through the waves very well. He is also polished at handling the boat in transition — tacking, gybing — and from long practice he has developed many techniques that get the best out of the boat. Downwind he is competent, makes few mistakes for his opponent to take advantage of and

overall is difficult to race against.

Only if he feels he does not have an advantage in an area such as — boatspeed, manoeuvrability or crewing, does he lose confidence and his reactions become less certain, sometimes leading to unnecessary defeats.

Racing White Crusader against Conner this southern summer, we lost to him in the first and third round-robin trials, but beat him in the second. In the first race, we won the start but lost the advantage with a sheet problem. The second saw us split tacks in the light winds at the start and sailing faster. We won the shortened race. In the third, we again started on opposite tacks but Stars and Stripes beat us by a substantial margin, underlining her steady improvement through the long period trials.

Conner has had one close call in his quest to win back the Cup he lost in 1983. The decision to build a fourth boat was made at the last practical moment (early in 1986). It was a decision taken only after his observers, watching the 1986 world championship off Fremantle, realized that Conner's first three boats were oriented to closely towards heavy weather and would be vulnerable in the early part of the trials and the Cup races themselves.

Competing against Dennis Conner does not worry me. His success is based almost entirely on thorough preparation allied to steady sailing, and given an equal boat competing against him, he is vulnerable. However, having said that, it will require a continued effort from Britain after this Cup to produce a competitive boat to race — and beat him — in the next America's Cup in three and a half years' time.

● **TOMORROW:** Cudmore sets out what it will take for Britain to win the Cup back from the Americans in 1991. More yachting, page 36

Injured hip may put paid to Budd

By Pat Butcher
Athletics Correspondent

Zola Budd's chances of contesting the World Cross-Country Championship, let alone successfully defending her title, now seem to be minimal.

According to British officials, Miss Budd returns to Britain this weekend, still carrying the injury that she took back to South Africa almost five months ago. She will not run in the women's National Cross-Country Championship in Bexley on Saturday week, and is due to see a specialist in Freiburg about the hip misalignment which has prevented her from training properly since the middle of last summer.

But Terry Moule, the osteopath who treats many of the top British athletes, and who helped Miss Budd last summer, says her condition is "very easily mendable". She has the classic middle-distance runner's fault. She has a pelvic tilt, which effectively makes one leg shorter than the other. But she also has a forward tilt which has the effect of shortening her hamstrings. It is nothing irreparable, and all these reports from South Africa about an operation are total rubbish. All she needs is corrective manipulation, and preventive exercises.

We have become used to the woe of disfigurement about Miss Budd which comes from British officials eager to play down the political sensitivity over her long trips back to South Africa after she got a British passport so easily. But if her collusion with the Budd camp was to extend British athletic success, then her non-appearance or relatively poor performance in the World Championships in Warsaw next month will need some official explanation.

Steve Cram's injury in Australia last week is worse than was thought. Cram has torn a calf muscle, which will require up to six weeks' rest. He is staying in Sydney for treatment.

Lindford Christie is also under the weather. After winning a 200 metres indoors in Athens on Sunday in a personal best time of 21.05, Christie has come down with chicken pox.

Next Milton is top British money winner

Next Milton, the nine-year-old grey gelding owned by Mr and Mrs Tom Bradley and ridden by John Whitaker, is the top British money winner in show jumping for 1986, winning more than £71,000 (Jenny MacArthur writes). Milton was first spotted by the late Caroline Bradley who had gone to John Harding's yard to look for a young horse. She immediately took to Milton and bought him despite her father's attempts to put her off what he considered "a little runt".

Warwick will lead Arrows

By John Blunsden

Derek Warwick's future in grand prix racing was secured when he signed a contract to lead the restructured USF&G Arrows team during the coming season. He became the first British driver in the Milton Keynes-based team, which looks to be at a turning point in their fortunes.

During the past three months the team's major sponsor, USF&G Financial Services, have provided additional funding and underwrit-

ing towards the cost of developing a new car as well as running an expanded research and development department, and operating the two-car team in 1987.

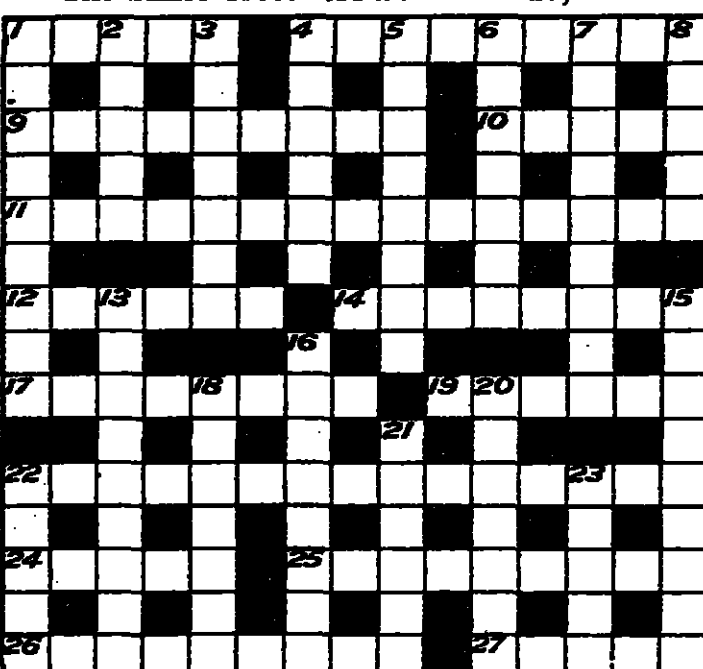
Warwick sees the coming season as "the ideal opportunity to re-establish myself in Formula One" after three seasons of frustration.

Although he secured a drive with Brabham last season, following the death Elio de

Angelis, the team struggled with problems on the radically different design of their car.

Former colleagues from his days at Toleman, which he left to join Renault in 1984, still speak warmly of Warwick's ability to motivate a team and of the respect he commands. The driver of the second car has not yet been chosen, but Michele Ferté, the 29-year-old Frenchman and Tomas Kaiser, from Sweden, are the two front-runners.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,272



- ACROSS**
- Course for foolish person rejected by army (5).
 - Paddy took food, eschewing alcohol (9).
 - Traveller distributing slices of bread? (9).
 - Show embarrassment at being stabbed (5).
 - One recalling information about aged dog (6,9).
 - Fools' precipitate entry, possibly (6).
 - Odds on he's an American lawyer worshipping here! (8).
 - Special constable in East imitating Houdini (8).
 - Happened to live with an unpopular doctor (6).
 - Dairy product made Newton ever so rich, oddly enough (10,5).
 - A yard, in King Arthur's day (5).
 - Like a female fighter in a riot by a river (9).
 - Make fewer bids, being unsystematic (9).
 - Directions are sent back to cancel (5).
- DOWN**
- Coming from abroad long before King George entered (9).
 - Second choice as an oar (5).
 - Died on deck, holding up a lecture (7).
 - Sound quality of certain lines.
 - Nanki-Poo claimed to be the nomadic type (8).
 - No good among the Spanish, his strange tongue (7).
 - Ambitious person making rare visit (9).
 - Bird sounding to some like a noted princess (5).
 - Came round and arranged for insurance (9).
 - Musical composition has lover in lead, perhaps (9).
 - Undeveloped island with grain beginning to emerge (8).
 - Peter the Republican, a real wildcat (7).
 - Pen put in wrapper (7).
 - Money from John's place? (6).
 - Hidden order demanding retirement of boxer, say (5).
 - Health's symphony — nothing less (5).

Concise crossword, page 37

WEATHER

A cold front will move SE across most parts followed by clearer weather. England and Wales will start cloudy with outbreaks of rain. Brighter weather will spread to many N and central districts during the day but in the S of England it will stay cloudy with occasional rain. Scotland and N Ireland will have a bright day with some sunshine and scattered showers in the N and W. In the evening more general rain will spread from the SW. Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Unsettled with more rain.

ABROAD			AROUND BRITAIN			HIGH TIDES		
MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fog; log, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; t, thunder.			Sun	Mon	Tue			
Algeria	3.14	57	Scarborough	0.2	0.1	7.45	cloudy	
Algeria	3.14	57	London	0.2	0.1	7.45	cloudy	
Algeria	3.14	57	Cardiff	0.2	0.1	7.45	cloudy	
Algeria	3.14	57	Southampton	0.2	0.1	7.45	cloudy	
Algeria	3.14	57	Exeter	0.2	0.1	7.45	cloudy	
Algeria	3.14	57	London	0.2	0.1	7.45	cloudy	
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